The Sydney Morning Herald.

NO. 7925.—VOL. XLVIII. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1863. PRICE THREEPENCE.

BIRTHS.

On the 18th instant, at her residence, 165, George-street, Mrs. James O'Neill, of a son.

On the 25th instant, at Newcastle, Mrs. William G. H. Capper, of a daughter.

On the 29th instant, at 169, Duke-street, Mrs. Alexander Ogilvie, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 7th instant, by special license, by the Rev. John Reid, Arthur Carr, widower, to Catherine Blue, widow of Mr. J. Blue, junior, both of St. Leonards.

On Thursday, the 29th instant, at St. John's, Darlinghurst, by the Rev. T. Hayden, Mr. T. Harborne Belcher, to Frances Harriet, second daughter of Mr. John Cramp.

On the 29th October, at St. Michael's Church, by the Rev. Mr. Halton King, Mr. William Kinsela, of South Head Road, to Sarah Ann, eldest daughter of George Evans, Hutchinson-street, Surry Hills.

DEATH.

On the 26th instant, at his residence, Double Bay, James Quinsil, aged 60 years, native of Kent, England.

SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

REDUCTION OF FREIGHTS by the A. S. N. Co.'s Steamships to Port Denison.—From and after this date, the freights by the A. S. N. Co.'s steamships to Port Denison will be:—

Dead weight .. 60s. per ton
Measurement .. 80s. ditto.

SAMUEL CLARK, manager.

A. S. N. Co's Wharf, Sussex-street.

THE AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMSHIPS

To MELBOURNE—WONGA WONGA, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, at 5

To HUNTER RIVER.—ILLALONG, THIS MORNING, FRIDAY, at 7; and COONANBARA, TOMORROW NIGHT, SATURDAY, at 11

To CLARENCE TOWN.—ILLALONG, TUESDAY MORNING, at 7

To BRISBANE.—URARA, MONDAY AFTERNOON, at 5

To ROCKHAMPTON.—DIAMANTINA, WEDNESDAY, 4th November, at 5 p.m.

To PORT DENISON, via ROCKHAMPTON—DIAMANTINA, WEDNESDAY, 4th November, at 5 p.m. (If sufficient cargo offers, the Diamantina will go on to the Burdekin River.)

To PORT DENISON, via ROCKHAMPTON.—JAMES PATERSON, about 7th November

From ROCKHAMPTON to PIONEER RIVER and PORT DENISON.—SAMSON, about 3rd November

From BRISBANE to IPSWICH.—The BRISBANE and the IPSWICH, daily

From BRISBANE to ROCKHAMPTON direct.—WILLIAMS, about 5th November

SAMUEL CLARK, Manager.

A. S. N. Co.'s Wharf, Sussex-street.

H. R. N. S. N. CO.—STEAM to the HUNTER, THIS (FRIDAY) NIGHT, at 11, the MORPETH TOMORROW (SATURDAY) MORNING, at 7, the PATERSON.

P. J. COHEN, Manager.

Offices—foot of Market-street.

C. AND R. R. S. N. Co's STEAMSHIPS.—To GRAFTON direct, the GRAFTON, on MONDAY, at 5 p.m.; to the RICHMOND RIVER via NEWCASTLE, the RAINBOW, 48 hours after arrival.

TILMOUTH F. DYE, Secretary

ILLAWARRA S. N. CO.'S STEAMERS TO WOLLONGONG.—HUNTER, TO-NIGHT, at 11.
KIAMA.—HUNTER, TO-NIGHT, at 11.
SHOALHAVEN.—HUNTER, TO-NIGHT, at 11.
ULLADULLA.—KEMBLA, on MONDAY, at noon.
CLYDE RIVER.—KEMBLA, on MONDAY, at noon.
MERIMBULA.—KIAMA, on WEDNESDAY, at 10 a.m.

PARRAMATTA STEAMERS.—EXTRA TRIPS.—From THIS DAY, these steamers will ply as follows:—

From PARRAMATTA, at 7, 8, and 11 a.m., and 4 p.m.
From SYDNEY, at 9 a.m., 1 15, 4 30, and 6 p.m.

The 8 o'clock steamer from Parramatta will, on arrival in Sydney, proceed to MANLY BEACH, returning in time for the 4 30 trip to Parramatta. The charge for the harbour trip will be only one shilling extra on the return tickets.

Phœnix Wharf, 12th October.

WATSON'S BAY STEAMER, DAILY.—Phœnix Wharf, Woolloomooloo, Watson's Bay,
10 0 10 30 3 0
Fare—single tickets, 1s.; return tickets, 1s. 6d.

S. H. WILSON.

MANLY BEACH STEAMERS daily.

Phœnix Wharf.	Circular Quay.	Woolloomooloo.	Manly.
10.	10 15, 2 15, 5 45.	10 30, 2 30, 8 15.	2 30 4 45

Fare—single ticket 1s. S. H. WILSON.

STEAM to PORT DENISON via ROCKHAMPTON, and PIONEER.—The regular trader s.s. STAR OF AUSTRALIA (fast filling up) will positively sail for the above ports on SATURDAY, the 31st instant.

For freight or passage, apply to J. and W. BYRNES and CO., Pitt-street.

FOR THE MORUYA RIVER.—The ORIENT, D. STEPHENS, master, is now receiving cargo. JOHN RAYNER, Victoria Wharf.

FOR SHOALHAVEN.—The CENTURION, on SATURDAY. For freight, apply on board, at the Victoria Wharf.

ESTHER, for MANNING RIVER.—For freight or passage apply on board, Victoria Wharf.

FOR THE MANNING RIVER.—The LIGHTNING, M. SUGDEN, master, is now receiving cargo. JOHN RAYNER, Victoria Wharf.

FOR RICHMOND RIVER, going to CORAKI, the COMMERCE, Wright's Wharf. W. WRIGHT.

FOR MACLEAY RIVER.—The MARGARET is receiving cargo. For freight or passage apply Market Wharf.

FOR BRISBANE.—The regular trader RHODERICK DHU, is now fast filling up at the Baltic Wharf

MOLISON and BLACK.

FIRST VESSEL FOR BRISBANE.—The favourite schooner ALBION, having the greater portion of her cargo engaged, will have immediate despatch.

Apply J. THORNE, 313, George-street.

FOR BRISBANE.—The clipper schooner MARGARET and MARY, —PRATT, master; has room for about twenty tons light freight.

For freight or passage apply to J. A. BROWN, Spring-street.

ONLY VESSEL for ROCKHAMPTON.—The unrivalled clipper schooner COLONIST, J. R. SCALEHORN commander, will sail on FRIDAY next

For freight or passage, apply to J. A. BROWN, Spring-street.

FOR ROCKHAMPTON direct.—The favourite schooner OTAGO, JOHNSTON, master, having the greater portion of her cargo engaged, will have quick dispatch

For freight or passage apply to J. THORNE, 313, George-street.

ELLEN, for TWOFOLD BAY, on FRIDAY, 30th October Commercial Wharf.

FOR MELBOURNE WHARF.—First vessel, the beautiful A1 clipper schooner AGNES JESSIE.

Apply to Captain M'KINLAY, on board, or to H. H. BEAUCHAMP, 14, Barrack-street.

*** Freight of maize, 6d. per bushel, delivered on Melbourne Wharf without any lightering.

FOR MELBOURNE WHARF.—The A1 fast sailing barque MARY AGNES, R. T. DARBY, master, is now rapidly receiving cargo at the Commercial Wharf, and will sail on SATURDAY.

For freight or passage apply to C. B. BOND, 54, Sussex-street; or to J. A. BROWN, Spring-street.

FIRST VESSEL for MELBOURNE WHARF.—The A1 clipper barque METEOR is now fast loading; has only room for a few tons, for which early application is necessary.

For freight or passage, having very superior accommodation, apply on board, at Roddam and Leslie's Wharf; T. G. SAWKINS, Exchange; or to LAIDLEY, IRELAND and CO., Lloyd's Chambers.

*** Shippers of maize may depend upon this being the first vessel away.

ONLY VESSEL FOR ADELAIDE.—The brig KESTREL, DAVIS, master, is now loading at Campbell's Wharf, and will sail about 5th November.

For freight or passage apply MOLISON and BLACK, 17, Bridge-street.

FOR AUCKLAND direct.—The favourite regular trader NOVELTY, P. JONES, commander (now hourly expected), will meet with her usual despatch.

For freight or passage apply to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyd's Chambers.

CHARLOTTE ANDREWS FOR AUCKLAND.—Clears at the Customs TO-MORROW. Shippers will please complete their shipments, pass ENTRIES, and forward bills of lading for signature.

For freight or passage, having unrivalled accommodation, apply on board, at the Grafton Wharf; J. A. BROWN, Spring-street; or to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyd's-chambers.

SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR THE GOLD-FIELDS, OTAGO.—The A1 clipper ship CITY OF QUEBEC, COLLHAN, commander, now discharging at Circular Quay, will sail in ten days should a sufficient number of passengers offer by noon on MONDAY next.

Early application is requested. MOLISON and BLACK, 17, Bridge-street.

ONLY VESSEL for DUNEDIN WHARF.—The well-known regular trader JANE LOCKHART, WILLIAMS, master, is now ready to receive cargo at Campbell's Wharf, and will sail on SATURDAY, 31st instant.

For freight or passage apply to MOLISON and BLACK, 17, Bridge-street.

JANE LOCKHART, FOR DUNEDIN.—Shippers are requested to complete their shipments and send in bills of lading by noon, THIS DAY Passengers to embark at 2 o'clock, TO-MORROW AFTERNOON.

N.B.—Has still room for a few steerage and cabin passengers.

MOLISON and BLACK, 17, Bridge-street.

ONLY VESSEL for PORT COOPER and OAMARU.—The A1 clipper ship FANNY MERRIMAN, J. R. VANDERVORD, commander, is now fast loading, and being under charter, will be quickly dispatched.

For freight or passage, having very superior accommodation, apply on board, at the Grafton Wharf; or to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyd's Chambers.

FOR PORT DE FRANCE, NEW CALEDONIA.—The A1 clipper Chilian barque DOMINGO, THAYER, master, will sail positively on WEDNESDAY, 4th November next. Has room for a few tons light freight and cabin passengers

Apply to HENRIQUES, JOUBERT, and CO., 229, George-street.

FOR MAURITIUS DIRECT.—To sail November 3rd.—The first-class Aberdeen clipper barque CLARA SAYERS, JAMES BREMNER, commander, can take 100 tons freight, if engaged at once.

For which, or passage, apply on board, at Campbell's Wharf, or to E. M. SAYERS, 324, George street.

Captain BREMNER will take charge of and advance on any consignments sent by the above vessel.

FOR SHANGHAI direct.—The fine A1 Hamburgh clipper barque MACASSAR, J. BOHM, commander, will be despatched on MONDAY, 2nd November.

For freight or passage apply immediately to the undersigned.

F. G. LENDER and CO., agents, 60, New Pitt-street.

FOR LONDON Direct.—To follow the William Duthie.—The favourite Aberdeen clipper ship WOOLLOOMOOLOO, 626 tons register, T. B. AYLING, commander, is now taking on board her outward cargo. Passengers are invited to inspect her superior accommodations.

Apply on board, at Circular Quay; or to JACOB L. MONTEFIORE.

FOR LONDON.—FOR FEBRUARY WOOL SALES.—The fine A1 clipper ship ISLES OF THE SOUTH, 821 tons register, JAMES SENNETT, commander, has all her dead weight, and will be dispatched in time for February sales.

Wool received at Marsden's shed.

Intending passengers are invited to inspect her cabin accommodation, which is unsurpassed by any vessel in the trade. Can take a few steerage passengers.

Apply on board; or to GILCHRIST, WATT, and CO.

FIRST SHIP FOR LONDON.—For Wool and Passengers only.—The splendid clipper ship WILLIAM DUTHIE, 968 tons register, JAMES DUTHIE, commander, having the greater portion of her cargo on board, will positively sail in a few days. The passage out of this ship was completed in 77 days. Intending passengers are informed that this vessel carries a competent surgeon. Has three elegant and roomy side cabins still disengaged. A cow will be taken by this vessel for the comfort of passengers.

Apply on board, at the Circular Quay; or to JACOB L. MONTEFIORE.

BLACKWALL LINE OF PACKETS.—For LONDON direct; to sail early in January. Messrs Green's magnificent A1 frigate-built ship ALFRED, 1350 tons, E. DE CARTERET, commander.

The ship's cabins are spacious, lofty, and ventilated by large ports, and the accommodation for second and third cabin passengers is of a very superior character.

For particulars and terms apply to J. B. METCALFE and CO., 9, Bridge-street.

FIRST PASSENGER VESSEL FOR LONDON.—The clipper ship SHACKAMAXON, 989 tons register, JOHN B. TEULON, commander. Now loading at Towns' Wharf, principal portion of dead weight being engaged, will have quick despatch. Wool received at Talbot's Stores, Circular Quay. This vessel has excellent accommodation for second cabin and steerage passengers.

Rates of Passage:—

Steerage ..	..	..	£17 0 0
Second Cabin	..	..	28 0 0

For freight or passage apply to Captain TEULON; to WILLIS, MERRY, and CO.; or to FREDERICK EBSWORTH.

MESSRS. MONEY WIGRAM and SONS' (of Blackwall Yard, London), LINE OF PACKETS, from MELBOURNE to LONDON. To SAIL on the 5th November, the renowned clipper ship SUFFOLK, 1100 tons, J. B. MARTIN, commander. Has very superior accommodation for all classes of passengers, and carries an experienced surgeon.

RATES FROM MELBOURNE:

First cabin, according to agreement.			
Second ditto ..	..	..	£30
Third ditto ..	..	..	£20
Steerage (open berths)	..	..	£16

J. B. METCALFE and CO., Bridge-street.

CHARTER.—For Charter, the clipper Lubeck bark EMMA and MATHILDE, 360 tons Apply on board, to Captain BEHRENS; or to BROWN and CO.

CHARTER.—Wanted, a VESSEL of about 200 tons, to load for a port in New Zealand. Apply to GILCHRIST, WATT, and CO., 64, Margaret-street.

NOTICE.—SHIP KINGFISHER, from HONGKONG.—All ACCOUNTS against the above ship must be rendered in Duplicate at the office of the undersigned before noon, on SATURDAY, the 31st instant, or they will not be allowed. WILKINSON, BROTHERS, and CO., No. 30, Hunter-street.

WANTED, to PURCHASE a SCHOONER or Ketch, about 50 tons register, light draught. Address, FIDES, Post Office.

SHIP CINDERELLA, from LONDON.—Consignees by this vessel are requested to PASS ENTRIES at once for Circular Quay. Any goods impeding the discharge will be cleared, landed, and stored at consignees' risk and expense; and the ship will not be responsible for any damage to, or loss of, cargo after being landed. Bills of lading must be produced at the office of the undersigned, and orders for delivery obtained before any goods can leave the wharf.

J. T. ARMITAGE and CO., agents.

FOR SALE, FREIGHT, or CHARTER, the A 1 American barque H. L. RUTGERS, C. C. HOWES, commander, 405 tons register, carrying capacity 850 tons, well found, and can be sent to sea immediately. Draft, 7 feet 6 inches light, and 14 feet loaded. Is well adapted for the cattle or any intercolonial trade, or a voyage to any part of the world.

For particulars apply to R. D. MERRILL and CO., 54, New Pitt-street.

SCHOONER FOR SALE.—The fine new Colonial-built schooner, MAID OF RIVERTON, 82 tons per register. This vessel was built in February of this year—is of light draught of water, and admirably suited for the Intercolonial or South Sea Island trade. She is now lying off Campbell's Wharf, where intending purchasers may inspect her.

For further particulars apply to MOLISON and BLACK, 17, Bridge-street.

TENDERS FOR FREIGHT.—Tenders in duplicate will be received at this Office until noon on SATURDAY, the 31st instant, for the conveyance of Sixty Cart Horses, per steamer, hence to Auckland, at the earliest date possible.

Further information can be obtained at this office.

Commissariat Office, George-street, Sydney,
27th October, 1863.

ROYAL SYDNEY YACHT SQUADRON.—Yachts to assemble at Farm Cove, at 10 a.m. on SATURDAY next, the 31st instant, and place themselves under the orders of the Commodore. By order,

G. H. HOWELL, hon. secretary.

CRICKET.—PYRMONT CLUB v. ALBERT 2nd Eleven.—The following members of the Albert Club are requested to attend on the Domain ground, TOMORROW (Saturday), at one p.m.:—Armitage, Black Deane, F. Fitzpatrick, Gordon, W. Hill, Reddie, Morgan, Morris, E. Rowley, J. Rowley, Stubbin, and Sullivan.

F. C. CURTIS, hon. secretary Albert C. C.

RETURN PICNIC to the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Sydney.—The committee for carrying out the above have made arrangements that the PICNIC take place on TUESDAY, 10th November next. Tickets may be obtained from any of the members. Gentlemen, £1; ladies, 10s. each.

JOSEPH R. CLAYTON, hon. sec.

TO CAB PROPRIETORS and others.—The road from Sydney to the Sir Joseph Banks Hotel, Botany Bay, is nearly finished, and is in first-rate order.

VICKERS MOYES.

PERSONS ADVERTISED FOR.

GEORGE EDSON and WILLIAM ROGERS, both sailors, are anxiously requested to communicate with their disconsolate PARENTS in London. They were last heard of by a letter from Edson, dated Snowy River, April 2nd, 1860, being then engaged together in the gold-fields and were known at Pollock, Brothers, storekeepers, of the same place. Any information will be gratefully received by their aged parents Address to Mr FREDERICK BOWRING, 211, Blackfriars Road, London S.

IF MR. C. MAINE (formerly of 107, Collins street West, Melbourne) would send his ADDRESS to J. HENRY, at Gordon and Gotch's, Hunter-street, Sydney, he would feel obliged.

MR. or Mrs OLIVER RICHARDSON, who arrived in the colony some 20 or 25 years ago, from Scotland, will oblige by communicating with GILCHRIST, WATT, and CO., 64, Margaret-street, Sydney

MARGARET ROBERTSON, who left Cambusnoul Dumbartonshire, Scotland, about the year 1840. Married one TURNBULL, or TRUMBLE. Write to your BROTHER, ANDREW ROBERTSON, at 1.4, Kent-street North Sydney.

WHITE HORSE HOTEL.—Will the Lady that called, CALL AGAIN or send the message. M.S

INTERCOLONIAL FOUR OAR RACE.—A Special General MEETING of the Committee will be held on FRIDAY next, the 30th instant, at four o'clock p.m., at Lawrence's Rooms, to receive the report of the selection committee, and to decide upon future proceedings. Members are particularly requested to attend.

WALTER HEAVEN, secretary.

October 27th.

AUSTRALIAN JOINT STOCK BANK.—Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Clause XIX of the Deed of Settlement, a Special General MEETING of the Proprietors of the Australian Joint Stock Bank is called for TUESDAY, the 3rd November next, at the Banking-house, in Sydney, at 12 o'clock precisely, for the purpose of considering the propriety of increasing the capital of the Company to £500,000, by the creation and allotment of 12,500 new shares of £10 each It is necessary that not less than half the paid up capital of the Bank be represented at the meeting in person or by proxy.

By order of the Board of Directors

A. H. RICHARDSON, General Manager.

Sydney, 13th October.

NEW SOUTH WALES INVESTMENT AND BUILDING SOCIETY.—Notice is hereby given that the Annual General MEETING of the members of this Society will be held at the office of the Society, 309, George-street, on FRIDAY, the 30th instant, at 3 p.m., for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors; a statement of receipts and expenditure for the year ending September 30th, 1863; for the election of a director in the room of Mr. J. Favella, who retires by lot, but who is eligible for re-election; and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting

By order of the Board of Directors

J. R. FREEVE, secretary

October 28th.

WARATAH COAL COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the First General MEETING of the Shareholders of the Company will be held in accordance with section 23 of the Company's Act of Incorporation at the Company's Offices, Moore's Buildings, Sydney, on TUESDAY, the third day of November next ensuing, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

By order of the Directory.

6th October GEORGE SPAIGHT, secretary

CARDIFF COAL COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given that the second Half-yearly MEETING of the shareholders in the above Company will be held at Rouse's Hotel, Newcastle, on FRIDAY, the 30th day of October instant, at 10 o'clock a.m., to receive the Report of the Directors for the past half-year, to elect two Auditors in the room of John Barlow and George Hutchison, resigned and to consider such other matters as may then be brought forward by the Board of Directors relating to the affairs of the company. By order of the Board,

G. A. RUSSELL, secretary.

PRODUCE SALES.—The Adjourned Meeting of parties interested in the Sale and Purchase of Produce is POSTPONED until WEDNESDAY next the 4th November, on which day it will be held in the Chamber of Commerce, at 3 o'clock p.m By order of the Committee,

GEORGE R. HIRST, Chairman.

MASONIC.—A Masonic LECTURE, on the principles of Freemasonry will be delivered at the Hall, on FRIDAY, the 31st instant, at half-past 7 o'clock p.m., by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Brother the Rev. P. P. AGNEW.

Brethren from the various Constitutions are invited to attend (in Masonic costume).

By order of the R.W. the P.G Master, E.C.,

JOHN A. MATHEWS, P.G., secretary.

SCHOOL OF ARTS.—DEBATE THIS EVENING, at 8 "Is the ballot preferable to open voting?

LOST, from Clark's Hotel, Circular Quay, opposite the Water Police Office, a White COCKATOO.

LOST, a Chamois Leather PURSE, contents of which can be described. The finder will receive one pound reward on returning it at 489, Pitt-street South.

LOST, in or near King-street, a PORTEMONNAIE containing £2 10s. and a Key. Reward given at Mr. SMITH'S, saddler, 258, Pitt-street.

LOST, or STOLEN, from Paddington, about ten days since, a Kangaroo BITCH, fawn coloured, with dark streaks on back A reward to the person taking her to E. FIELD Devonshire-place, Paddington; and any one detaining her after this notice will be prosecuted.

PEPPER, PEPPER.—Why has "Pepper?"—The party who, on Wednesday last, took possession of a Tan-coloured Skye TERRIER, answering to, and well-known by, the name of "Pepper," is requested to allow the dog the chance of returning to his owner at Bourke-street or Circular Quay. ALFRED MITCHELL

STRAY HORSE.—A Light Chesnut Horse, unbranded, stripe on face, has been on my run for the last eight months, unless removed, and all expenses paid, he will be sold by auction, in Berrima, on Saturday, the 7th day of November next. WILLIAM SIMPSON, Big River, Mittagong.

CAUTION.—STOLEN, a PROMISSORY NOTE, by Mr DAVID P. M'EUEN, in favour of and endorsed by A. STEWART, for £850, dated Sydney, July 17, at six months' date, due 20th January, 1864 payable at the Commercial Bank, Sydney All persons are cautioned against discounting the same, payment having been stopped.

Sydney, October 26, 1863.

CAUTION.—The public are cautioned against negotiating the undermentioned CHEQUES, payment of which has been stopped.

No. 375,037 drawn in favour of wages, by W. Walker, upon Union Bank, Sydney, for £8 16s 4d.

No. 40 drawn by Annie Dillon, for Augustus Dillon, in favour of W. Weir, upon English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered Bank, Sydney, for £1 1s 8d.

No. 93, drawn in favour of W. Weir, by R. T. Moodie, upon the Joint Stock Bank, for £1 4s 10d

No —, drawn in favour of W. Weir, by John Tait, upon Joint Stock Bank, for £1 4s 9d.

No. 307,239, drawn in favour of W. Weir, by H. Compagnoni, upon the Commercial Bank, Sydney, for £12 12s.

The above cheques have been STOLEN.

WILLIAM WEIR.

Sydney, October 29th.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 26th October, 1863

£4000 REWARD, for the apprehension of JOHN GILBERT, JOHN O'MEALLEY BENJAMIN HALL, and JOHN VANE.

AND £100 REWARD FOR ACCOMPLICES.

Whereas the abovenamed persons are charged with the commission of numerous and serious offences, and have hitherto eluded the efforts to apprehend them: It is hereby notified that the Government will pay a reward of One Thousand Pounds for such information as will lead to the apprehension of each of the offenders named.

The Government will also pay a reward of One Hundred Pounds for such information as will lead to the conviction of any person or persons for harbouring, assisting, or maintaining any of the abovenamed offenders.

All such information communicated by any person charged with the commission of an offence will entitle his case to favourable consideration by the Crown, and will in all cases be regarded by the police authorities as strictly confidential; and in the event of payment of any of the rewards above offered, the name of the recipient will not be disclosed.

The above rewards are offered in lieu of all others previously payable by Government for the apprehension or conviction of the offenders above named.

WILLIAM FORSTER.

£200 REWARD will be paid for the recovery of the PROPERTY STOLEN on last SUNDAY NIGHT, from the premises of Mr. WEIR, butcher, Pitt-street. A portion of the property consisted of papers of no value to any person but the owner. Any person restoring them to the above address will receive the sum of £200.

HOBSON'S DERBY SWEEP, on the Melbourne Cup, November, 1863.—First Horse, £75; second, £50; third, £25; starters not placed, £25, free from any deduction whatever. 200 members at £1 each. A few shares still on hand, to be obtained (up to Saturday, the 31st instant), from Mr. HOBSON, at Tattersall's, or Mr. LAWRENCE'S cricketing depôt, George-street, Sydney.

FRANCIS HOBSON, T. C.

PRINCE OF WALES OPERA HOUSE.
Sole Lessee .....Mr. W. S. Lyster.
Engagement of Miss GEORGIA HODSON.

FRIDAY, October 30th, last night but one of the Grand Fairy Extravaganza of

THE KING OF THE PEACOCKS.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

ISLANDERS AND INLANDERS.

Argus, the Brilliant-eyed, King of the Peacocks .... Miss GEORGIA HODSON
Florinel the Fair, King of the Verdant Valley.... Miss Fanny Young
Prince Jessamy (his brother) ..... Miss Maggie Griffiths
Poo-lee-ha-lee, captain and part owner of the Chinese Junk..... Mr. Frederick Younge
Soyez Tranquille, Chef de Cuisine to H.M. the King of the Peacocks ..... Mr. G. H. Rogers
O'Dont-know-who—pronounced "O'Donoghue," a Milesian ..... Mr. Hogan
Page of the Back Stairs..... Mr. Daniels
Rumfizana, daughter of the Baroness ..... Miss Murphy
Princess Rosetta, sister to Florizel .... Miss A. M. Quinn
Baroness Von Huggermugger, Ex-Nurse and Governante ..... Mrs. Crosby

FAIRYLANDERS.

Fairy Faithful, a loyal "Old Fairy-lander".... Miss M. Corcoran
Fairy Fickle, a fast "Young Fairy-lander.. Miss J. Corcoran
A May-Fly, such as may fly in Fairy Land—quite a "Lusus Naturæ" ..... Mr. C. Walsh
Fretillon, a Green Dog with one ear..... Mr. Morrison

Guards, Attendants, Pages, Cooks, Chinamen, &c., by a numerous train of Auxiliaries, and to give effect to the Operatic Selections, an efficient Chorus has been engaged.

Magnificent Last Scene—Fairy Festive Hall! Shower of Gold! and Cascades and Fountains of Real Water.

To commence with the Drama, in two acts, of the

CHIMNEY CORNER.

Carriages may be ordered at 11 o'clock, to set down with horses' heads towards Hunter-street, take up towards King-street. Box office open from 12 till 3 o'clock daily, for the sale of seats.

GRAND OPERA.—Mr. W. S. LYSTER has the honour to announce that at the request of a great number of his patrons he has made arrangements to give

FOUR GRAND OPERA NIGHTS,

previous to the departure of the company for Melbourne. The following will be the dates of the representations:—

TUESDAY, November 3rd,
TUESDAY, November 10th,
TUESDAY, November 17th,
TUESDAY, November 24th.

The performances will be given by the full strength of the Royal Italian and English Opera Company, in the same superb manner that has hitherto characterised the efforts of the management.

In order to render the production of the four operas as perfect as possible, Mr Lyster has engaged the celebrated composer,

Mr. GEORGE LODER,

who will conduct.

The first opera will be Donizetti's chef d'ouvre

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR.

Box Book now open from 12 till 3 daily, when seats can be secured for each night of the season.

NOTICE.—The free list, with the exception of the Press, will be entirely suspended during the opera nights.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Great success of the celebrated artist Madame MARIE DURET, who will appear TO-NIGHT in her great impersonation,

BIANCA, THE ITALIAN WIFE.

Fifth night of Madame Gordon Hyde, in the most successful burlesque of the season.

New and magnificent scenery by Burbury and Hibbe.

THIS EVENING, October 30th, the performance will commence for this night only, with the tragedy

FAZIO, or the ITALIAN WIFE.

Bianca..... Madame Marie Duret.

To conclude with the prize burlesque

ILL-TREATED IL TROVATORE.

The Moonlight Effects by Mr. Cushla

Manrico ..... Madame Gordon Hyde
Azucena..... Mr. J. P. Hyde.
Sir Henry Bishop's—"Lo here the Gentle Lark."
Song—"Hankie is Morte" ..... Madame Gordon Hyde.

On SATURDAY will be produced with new scenery and effects, the great drama—Cartouch, or the French Jack Sheppard—played by Madame Duret 150 consecutive nights in London.

In active preparation, the great Adelphi drama

THE HARVEST HOME.

The eminent tragedian, Mr. CHARLES DILLON, is engaged, and will shortly appear, and play his farewell engagement prior to his departure for London.

SCHOOL OF ARTS,
PITT-STREET.
Messrs POUSSARD and DOUAY'S
Grand Evening
CONCERT,
on
FRIDAY, October 30,
PROGRAMME.
PART I.

Instrumental duet—Partant pour la Syrie....Poussard and ..... Douay
M. M. HORACE POUSSARD and RENE DOUAY.
Song—Shells of the ocean ..... Cherry
Miss FLORENCE BEVERLEY.
Solo, violin—Fantasie La Muette ..... Auber
Mon. HORACE POUSSARD.
Song—As burns the charger ..... Shield
Mr. W. H WILKINSON.
Solo, violoncello—Cradle song..... R Douay
Mons. RENE DOUAY.
Serenade—Good night, good night, beloved..... Balfe
Mr. EDWARD A. BEAUMONT.
Solo, violin—Grand sonata { A Moses' Prayer....Paganini / B Theme, with variations..... Paganini
Mons. HORACE POUSSARD.

This beautiful piece is performed on a violin fitted with one string only.

An interval of ten minutes.

PART II.

Vocal duet—Flow gently, Deva ..... Parry
Messrs E. A. BEAUMONT and W. H WILKINSON.
Song—What's a' the steer kimmer.....
Miss FLORENCE BEVERLEY.
Solo—Hungarian air ..... H. Poussard
Mons. HORACE POUSSARD.
Song—Excelsior ..... Hatton
Mr. EDWARD A BEAUMONT.
Solo, violoncello { A Don Sebastian ..... Donizetti / B A child's dream ..... R. Douay
Mons. RENE DOUAY.

Concert to commence at 8 o'clock precisely.

Prices of admission—Reserved seats, 5s; body of hall, 3s; gallery and back seat, 2s.

Reserved seat tickets can be secured at the following music shops:—Messrs. J. R. Anderson, George-street; J. R. Clarke, George street; Wilkie, Elvy, and Co., George-street; —Mons. Hunt, Pitt-street; Johnson and Co Pitt-street; and at the Café Français, George-street.

SYDNEY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—ELEMENTARY VOCAL CLASS, St James' School-room, THIS EVENING, at half-past 7.

THOMAS J. SOUTHERN, hon. secretary.

WONDERS IN ELECTRIC SCIENCE.—Professor BUSHELL (the Electro-biologist), will give his mysterious ENTERTAINMENT as follows—Saturday, October 31st, Newcastle; Monday, November 2nd, Maitland; Wednesday, 4th, Singleton.

Volunteer Brigade Office,
Sydney, 29th October 1863.

BRIGADE ORDER. Parade for November, 1863

VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

SATURDAY, 28th, at 3 30 p.m., full dress, Inner Domain, Inspecting Field Officer's Parade.

SYDNEY BATTALION

SATURDAY, 14th, at 3 30 p.m., full dress. Outer Domain, Inspecting Field Officer's Parade, band and drums to attend

MONDAY, 23rd, at 7 30 p.m., undress, Adjutant's Drill, drums and fifes to attend.

SUBURBAN BATTALION.

SATURDAY, 7th, at 3.30 p.m., full dress, University Ground, Inspecting Field Officer's Parade

TUESDAY, 24th, A. S. N. Company, 5 p.m., undress, Pyrmont, Adjutant's Drill.

The same day, at 7 30 p.m., Glebe and Newtown, undress, University Lower Grounds, Adjutant's Drill.

WEDNESDAY, 25th, Balmain, undress, at 7 30 p.m. Pigeon Ground, Adjutant's Drill.

FRIDAY, 27th, St. Leonards, 7 30 p.m undress, Adjutant's Drill, on their own grounds.

(Signed) JOHN FRANCIS KEMPT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Inspecting Field Officer.

NO. 6 COMPANY RIFLE CLUB.—Members of the Company desirous of joining the Rifle Club are requested to communicate with Sergeant ALLEN, at the Brigade Office, from whom the Rules can be obtained.

W. HARBOTTLE, Captain.

BALMAIN COMPANY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.—The Third Anniversary of the Company will be commemorated TO-MORROW, the 31st instant, at the Balmain Target Butts. The prizes to be kindly presented by the Ladies of Balmain, and other prizes will be shot for. Members will assemble at 2 o'clock in undress uniform with white cap-covers. Firing for the prizes will commence at half-past 2 sharp. Ammunition will be issued free. The Band will attend.

THEODORE J. JAQUES, Captain.

TO BE RAFFLED, at Tattersall's Hotel, at 8 o'clock THIS EVENING, a first-class black HORSE.

MR. J. CLARK'S Quadrille Assembly, at his Rooms, Colonnade, Elizabeth-street North, This Evening.

ACARD.—SINGING.—Mr. FRED. LYSTER, a pupil of Garcia and Lablache, has the honour to announce that, during the recess of the Opera, he will receive PUPILS.

Terms, on application to WILKIE and ELVY, George-street.

AGISTMENT.—Rooty Hill, 4000 acres, well fenced. S. HEBBLEWHITE, 292, Pitt-street.

CITY WINE VAULTS.—The best Luncheon Rooms in Sydney, open from 12 to 3. M'GRATH and PUNCH, proprietors.

CITY WINE VAULTS Luncheon Rooms now open. M'GRATH and PUNCH, proprietors.

CITY WINE VAULTS.—The best Billiard Table in Sydney. M'GRATH and PUNCH, proprietors.

CITY WINE VAULTS.—M'GRATH and PUNCH beg to inform their old friends that they have opened the above hotel.

CITY BANK.—Temporary Offices, George-street, over Mr. Gillam's, cutler's, shop.

JACOB L. MONTEFIORE, Chairman of the Board of Directors.

COLONIAL COPPER TOKENS bought, in any quantities. DAVEY and HUNTER, City Boot and Shoe Bazaar, New Market-buildings, George-street.

DR. BOWMAN is at home for consultation before 2, and after 6 p.m. Appointments for visits arranged before 12, noon. 1, Elmore-terrace, King-street East, opposite St. James' Church.

EDWARD TURNER, Lithographic and General Printer, Stationer, &c., 26, Hunter-street.

GEORGE FOX and CO., Carriers, 479, George-street Sydney.

KELLY'S PHRENOLOGICAL CHAMBERS, 249, Elizabeth-st, near Bathurst-st. Register from 2s. 6d.

PUBLIC HOUSE.—Mr. DELOHERY has an excellent Business, in the most central and respectable part of the city, at a very reasonable figure. Apply at once, Office, Park-street.

SPECTACLES, to suit all sights. LECKY'S New Spectacle Shop, 530, George-st, opposite Druitt-st

TURKISH BATH, Bligh-street. OPEN DAILY, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

W. WILLINGTON, per William Dathie, to Pickford's, London. Small parcels, 1s. 148, Prince-street, Sydney.

COLONIAL INDUSTRY v. Foreign Manufacture.—HALLEY and CLYDE Coachbuilders, have REMOVED to more extensive premises in Pitt-street, near Bathurst-street, at the back of the old coach factory. We have got on hand a quantity of colonial-built buggies of different kinds, cab phaetons, express waggons, passenger waggons, sociables on the American principle, all of first-rate workmanship and material.

H and C. solicit a call from parties before they purchase elsewhere.

HALLEY and CLYDE. No. 381, Pitt-street, near Bathurst-street. The old Premises to Let in George-street to a good tenant.

BELL'S LIFE, TO-MORROW.
BELL'S LIFE TO-MORROW.
BELL'S LIFE TO-MORROW.

A Bell's Eye View of the Political Movements of this Week.

Political Courtship; or Why did you not tell me before? Weddin Mountain Joint Stock Bank.

The Sydney Betting Men, and the Lie in BELL'S LIFE IN VICTORIA.

☞ News, Rumours, Police, Facts, Fictions Bushranging, Random Shots at Sucking Politicians, and the Frivolities and Follies of the Day!!!

N.B.—Advertisements received up to 8 o'clock THIS EVENING, at the office, 226, Castlereagh-street.

EAGAR FOR WEST SYDNEY.—The Committee and Scrutineers are requested to MEET, at the Committee Rooms, Criterion Hotel, York and King streets, at 7 o'clock, THIS MORNING, 30th October.

HENRY SELBY, hon. sec.

EAGAR FOR WEST S

ELECTION FOR WEST SYDNEY: NOMINATION DAY.

YESTERDAY was the nomination day appointed for the election of a member of the Legislative Assembly, to fill the vacancy consequent upon the resignation of Mr. Geoffrey Eagar of his seat as one of the members for the West Sydney electorate—on the occasion of his accepting office as Colonial Treasurer in the Martin Ministry. The proceedings took place, as usual in all such cases, in the enclosure of Wynyard-square, at midday. At first not more than 500 persons were on the spot, but subsequently the number of electors present was very considerably augmented. The hustings—a commodious temporary structure—was judiciously kept by the returning officer, Mr. George Thornton, for the candidates and their immediate supporters, and for the members of the Press.

The RETURNING-OFFICER, at twelve o'clock, advancing to the front of the hustings, addressed the electors of West Sydney. He said they had been there convened for the purpose of affording them an opportunity for exercising their elective franchise in that division of the city, in order that they might elect a member of the Legislative Assembly to fill the vacancy consequent upon the fact that their late member, Mr. Geoffrey Eagar, had accepted the office of Colonial Treasurer in connection with the present Ministry. He felt that he need scarcely ask them to give a kind consideration, and a fair and impartial hearing to those who should come forward and address them; it had always been the custom of the West Sydney electors to conduct themselves at such times in an orderly and courteous manner, and he therefore felt himself quite justified in the assumption that their demeanour would be all that could possibly be desired on that occasion. When order and courteous demeanour were preserved at these times by the people themselves it was a great pleasure, as well as an honour, to discharge the business of a returning officer. He should leave the gentlemen who were to address them to speak for themselves, and felt sure that they would be patiently listened to. Mr. Thornton then read the writ from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly authorising the election, and called upon any person present to propose a candidate for the suffrages of the electors of West Sydney, to fill the vacancy which existed in the representation in the Assembly of that electorate.

Mr. PATRICK FREHILL then came forward, and was received with cheers. He said it was with great pleasure that he appeared there before the West Sydney electors to propose Mr. Geoffrey Eagar, for the second time, as a fit and proper person to represent that electorate in the Legislative Assembly of the colony. It had fallen to him to discharge that duty for Mr. Eagar in January last, and it was with great satisfaction that he found he had now the same thing to perform. He said this because he had still the same confidence in Mr. Eagar that ever he had—(cheers), because he believed that Mr. Eagar's conduct in Parliament had given great and general satisfaction, and because he believed that he possessed both ability and political honesty—qualifications which were decidedly the best that their representatives could possess. (Cheers.) Impressed with the truths of this, he begged to nominate Mr. Geoffrey Eagar, their late member, as a fit and proper person to represent that electorate. (Cheers.)

Mr. JOHN DAVIS seconded the nomination of Mr. Eagar, and in so doing expressed himself deeply sensible of the high honour which had devolved upon him in thus appearing before the electors of West Sydney to support the candidature of their late representative. That gentleman, since his election by that constituency, had shewn himself, by his talents and by his integrity, well deserving of the distinguished political position he had been called upon to occupy; for his personal talent and his political character were undoubtedly such as rendered him eminently qualified to settle the affairs of the country which had been left in a state of some confusion and perplexity. He believed that Mr. Eagar would introduce a much more satisfactory state of things into the finances of the colony, now in a bad state owing to the mismanagement of public affairs by that Government which had lately ceased to hold office. (Cheers.) As a native of the colony, he must confess, moreover, that he was very happy to think that they had now a native of the colony as Colonial Treasurer—one whose personal ability and political character were so generally appreciated. It also afforded him satisfaction to think that Mr. Eagar was not the only native of the colony in the new Ministry. He had great pleasure in seconding the nomination of Mr. Geoffrey Eagar as a fit and proper person to be elected as one of the representatives of West Sydney. (Cheers.)

After a short pause,

The RETURNING-OFFICER inquired whether any other gentlemen had other candidates to propose.

In answer to this query,

Mr. JABEZ BUNTING stepped forward, and, amidst loud laughter and a variety of uncomplimentary remarks, proceeded to address the electors. He said it was his privilege as an elector of West Sydney to address his fellow-electors, and he intended to exercise that privilege in spite of the opposition of some who might attempt to prevent him from being heard. [Cries of "Well done, Bunting!" "What is it you want?" "Well, what next?" together with sundry other less decorous exclamations.] He begged to propose Mr. Jabez Bunting as a fit and proper person to represent that electorate. (Shouts—and "The man must be mad.")

Mr. Bunting was not seconded, and the Returning-officer, in alluding to that accidental circumstance, said that he believed the formality of being seconded was not specially required by the law. The point was one upon which there had been some diversity of opinion, but it was one which he should decide in favour of Mr. Bunting. All that the 31st clause of the New South Wales Electoral Act (the 14th Victoria, No. 48) demanded was, that the candidate should be proposed. The candidate might propose himself if he thought proper. ["Not if he is a madman." Laughter.] Having referred to the Act, the Returning-officer proceeded to state that he should take a show of hands.—first one for Mr. Eagar, then one for Mr. Bunting,—and so should declare which had the majority. If a poll were demanded by either of the candidates the election would take place on the following day. [A Voice: The poll must be demanded by six electors.] It was sufficient if it were demanded by one of the candidates by the terms of the Act. If so demanded the election must be proceeded with.

A show of hands was then demanded for Mr. Eagar, when the great majority of those present held up their hands. A show of hands was next called for Mr. Bunting, and some amusement caused by the fact that very few hands (if any) were to be seen in answer to the call.

The RETURNING-OFFICER declared the show of hands to be in favour of Mr. Eagar.

Mr. BUNTING demanded a poll, and the polling day was fixed for to-morrow (this day).

Mr. EAGAR said, I have so recently addressed, at the Masonic Hall, a very large body of the electors of this constituency, and explained so fully and frankly my own opinions and probable course of action in the Ministry to which I have the honour to belong, that under existing circumstances the gentlemen now assembled can scarcely expect from me a very long speech. But, somewhat to my surprise, the circumstances of this morning are a little varied by the fact of to-day. I come before you threatened, it appears, with a very formidable opposition. (Laughter.) The pretensions of the Cowper party, reduced to the trying proportions of my friend on my right, confront me to-day in the person of Mr. Bunting. (Laughter.) I hope the electors of this large constituency will show their appreciation of the gentleman on my right hand, and those principles which I and those who act with me have the honour to represent. (Hear, hear.) Apart from every other consideration, I certainly feel that when I am honoured by the attendance of so large a body of gentlemen, on that ground alone I am bound to depart from my original intentions, and to address you at some length on certain points not alluded to in the speech of which I had the honour to deliver on last Wednesday week. I may say to you that I look upon the unopposed return of my friends and colleagues, Mr. Forster and Mr. Holroyd, the one for East Sydney, and the other for Parramatta, as a marked and significant indication of a change in the public opinion of this colony. (Hear, hear.) The time has evidently come when the people of this colony think—or at all events when a very large portion of the electors think—that the tenure of office by the last Ministry has lasted for a sufficiently long period—that five years of government have culminated in an unprecedentedly unsafe position of life and property and almost hopeless insolvency. These, no doubt, are quite sufficient indications to you of the necessity for a change. (Hear, hear.) We had arrived, in short, at a state of facts when it became necessary for the people to speak out, and the public have spoken out most emphatically as far as my friends Mr. Forster and Mr. Holroyd are concerned; and I hope they will speak out with equal distinctness in reference to the other members of the Ministry who are awaiting the public verdict. (Hear, hear.) I need scarcely call your attention to certain indications which have shown themselves during the existence of the present crisis. Great attempts were made to get out an opponent against Mr. Forster—great attempts were also made to get out an opponent against Mr. Holroyd, and I have no doubt that very considerable exertions must have been made to get out an opponent against me when Mr. Bunting makes his appearance on this platform. (Continued laughter.) Previous to his election, my hon. colleague (Mr. Holroyd) was solicited by Mr. George Oakes and a number of the members of that clique to go up to Parramatta to state his opinions before the day of nomination. But we have already had experience of the tactics of Mr. Oakes and his clique, and Mr. Holroyd judiciously avoided the trap which was laid for him; for no doubt, under the instigation of Mr. Charles Cowper, sen., it was intended to entrap my hon. colleague into certain admissions made at the spur of the moment, and on the face of these to get up an opposition. (Hear, hear.) But this device signally failed, and by your votes to-morrow I hope you will prove that this later and smaller device against me will fail in a like remarkable manner. (Cheers.) I feel bound to say something to you in regard to the deficiency in the public revenue, which has been lately noticed by the public papers. (Hear, hear.) As far as I am personally and officially concerned I felt that as the Treasurer of the country, I had no right to make an authoritative statement in reference to any matter relating to the public finances until I made that statement to the Assembly. I thought that the Assembly, as representatives of the people of this country, had a right to hear from me first of all, and before anybody else, an authenticated and authoritative account of the state of our money matters. (Hear, hear.) And as far as I am concerned, both on public grounds as well as on that of prudence, I should have avoided making any statement of the kind I am now about to make; but I find that certain facts have leaked out, not in any way proceeding from me or from my department. Certain statements have been made, and certain articles have appeared in the daily Press in reference to this subject, and under these circumstances, as there is so much public excitement in relation to the condition of the Treasury I feel it right, and I also feel that it is due to the public—while intending no offence to the members of the Assembly—to lay before you certain authoritative facts which will lead you to right conclusions in reference to this most important matter. For this purpose I have brought here certain papers from the Treasury and figures, which I will presently quote to you. But I desire to tell you in the first place what happens when a Treasurer goes out of office, and a new Treasurer goes in. I will instance what has taken place in relation to Mr. Smart and myself. Upon Mr. Smart's resignation and myself being sworn in and actually taking office, I met Mr. Smart as he met his predecessor, at the Treasury Chambers. You will see that when a new man takes office it is right, both as regards himself and the retiring Treasurer, that what is handed over should be verified by competent and trustworthy parties. In accordance with the usual custom, Mr. Smart named his friend (Mr. Murnin), and I named my friend (Mr. Prince). These gentlemen were named as commercial men of the highest reputation for character and ability, and perfectly competent to arrange the matters between us. Those gentlemen met at the Colonial Treasury. Mr. Smart was not there; I was not there. They dealt with the public accounts and public balances as presented to them by the officials of the Treasury. A statement was prepared on the 15th October, the day when Mr. Smart handed over his balances. This statement consisted of the balances shown by the books of the Treasury—that is to say, the balances of account, a portion of which comprehended cash balances representing moneys lodged in the Bank of New South Wales. Those two gentlemen—Messrs. Murnin and Prince (quite independently of Mr. Smart and myself) having full access to the Treasury books, and the officers being instructed to give all the information at their disposal, agreed to and signed a Treasury audit as perfect and complete on the 15th day of October in this present year. So far then as I was concerned, and so far as Mr. Smart was concerned, we were legally absolved from any consequences. But it happened that some three or four days afterwards it began to be whispered about that the Treasury balances were somehow or other incorrect. Mr. Murnin was called upon me. He named the rumours to me, and requested that I would obtain from the Bank of New South Wales a formal certificate from an authorised person stating what the balance really was in the bank. The voucher produced by the officials to Mr. Murnin and Mr. Prince was simply the "pass-book," or "bank book," with a balance written in red ink. But Mr. Murnin and his co-auditor thought, as I thought, that the proper voucher to have from the bank was a distinct certificate that the sum specified in the bank book on the 15th was actually available for the cheques of the Government. Being resolved then that those gentlemen should have their audit right, both in respect to Mr. Smart and myself, I addressed a letter to the Bank of New South Wales, requesting them to furnish these gentlemen with an authoritative certificate of the actual cash balances on the 15th October of the present year; and on receipt of that authoritative certificate from the Bank of New South Wales the following facts were, for the first time, disclosed to myself, and, certainly, this is the first time they have been disclosed by any Treasurer to the public of this country. The balance stated to be in the Bank of New South Wales on the 15th October, 1863, was put down at £518,343 16s. 5d., and these figures amounting to half a million have been used by a part of the daily Press of this country, as indicating the fact that, at that particular day, there was half a million of money lying unemployed in the bank and available for the cheque of the Treasurer to meet the current expenses of the country! Nothing of the kind. This sum of £518,343 consists of the following items (I will give you the round numbers and not parts of hundreds):—The balance at the credit of the consolidated revenue—that is to say the property of the country out of which we have to pay the whole of the appropriations for the service of the year—was stated to be £311,000; the balance of the loan fund was said to be £105,000; assessment on sheep, £900; the Church and School fund, £14,000; and the lodgements, £86,000—these lodgements being moneys of the public and not of the State, which are deposited with the Government for the purpose of security—money in no shape belonging to the State, but to private individuals or bodies, and with which the Government has nothing to do but to take it into its safe keeping. As contradistinguished from these figures I desire to point out to you the actual state of the consolidated revenue on the 15th October, 1863, when the old Treasurer went out and your new Treasurer came in. (Hear, hear.) The whole consolidated revenue in the Bank of New South Wales on the 15th day of October, 1863, was £87,343 4s. 11d.; so that we are landed in this extraordinary and unprecedented condition, that, with an enormous amount of public obligations to be met up to the close of this year, we find only £90,000 towards meeting the liability! Now, I say further, that for a long time this unsatisfactory mode of stating the public accounts has prevailed. It began with Mr Weekes—that gentleman who devised the "savings" system. (Laughter.) The same gigantic intellect devised this mode of deceiving the Assembly and the public as to the true state of the public balances. (Hear, hear.) You will now understand why I shall be obliged to call upon you for new taxes. We had in fact but £90,000 on the 15th of this month towards meeting that part of the public engagements for the year not yet satisfied. I may say, further, that at one period of this year the amount in the Treasury to the credit of the consolidated revenue did not exceed £9000. (Expressions of surprise.) If that was not close on the verge of insolvency, I do not understand figures or affairs generally. (Cheers.) I will now show you how gross is the system of deception which has been practised in the Assembly! Thanks to Mr. Dalgleish, one of my honourable colleagues, a resolution was carried in relation to the answers of Ministers to the questions of hon. members. Antecedently to the present session, when hon. members asked questions on matters of importance for public information, they were treated by the Ministry of the day in the coolest and most contemptuous manner. Information of all kinds was asked for, but it was systematically refused or evaded. But my hon. friend, Mr. Dalgleish—(and I gladly supported him in his motion which he subsequently carried)—brought about during the present session, a reform which made it obligatory that the answers of Ministers should be taken down, and they now appear in the votes and proceedings as part of the official record. I have not, therefore, to repeat to you conversations or fragments of conversations;—I have not to distort personal recollections for my own or for other purposes. I refer to a public record. I will read to you the question of Mr. Piddington and Mr. Smart's most untruthful answer; and then I will leave you to say how far the deception has been gross and wilful in regard to the public balances. On the 9th September of the present year my hon. friend Mr. Piddington asked Mr. Smart the following question: "What is the amount of the cash balances at the credit of the following accounts—[(1) Consolidated Revenue Fund; (2.) Loans account; (3.) Clergy and School Lands Fund; (4.) Assessment on sheep; (5.) Police Reward Fund; (6.) Police Superannuation Fund; (7.) Special Receipts account; (8.) Trust Moneys Deposit account]—in the various banks on the 31st August, 1863?" You will observe that Mr. Piddington asked for the amount of the "cash balances" in the various banks on a particular day. And what was Mr. Smart's answer to that question? Mr. Smart, in reply, read from a paper the whole of the balances of account in the Treasury, which balances of account comprehend in their larger sum the lesser sum of cash. In other words, he took every account in the books of the Treasury and recited all their balances as though they were cash balances, and accordingly presented to the House and to the country this most consoling fact. He made out in answer to Mr. Piddington that the "cash balances" on the 31st of the present year amounted to £1,853,336 10s. 9d.! (Laughter.) Now, Mr. Smart made this statement at the very time he had in his hands the true balances, which I will read to you—carefully taken out to-day under my own personal superintendence, from the books of the Treasury. In answering, or rather in not answering—in falsifying, as regarded Mr. Piddington's questions, Mr. Smart includes in his cash balance a million and a quarter of unsold debentures! He treats this £1,250,000 unsold debentures as cash!—forgetful also of this important fact, that in proportion as he turned these debentures into money he increased in a like degree the already excessive public debt. (Cheers.) I recollect distinctly that I sat near Mr. Piddington at the time this answer was made—at the time this volume of false figures leading to false conclusions was read to the House, and hon. gentlemen will bear me out that I expressed my intense disgust at the gross deception practised on the Assembly. But the rule being that when a question is asked there can be no debate we could say nothing, but Mr. Piddington and myself both felt that any attempt under the Cowper Ministry to get at the true state of the public balances would be met by all kinds of evasion and disingenuousness short of actual fraud. Now, having shown you from the very lips of this gentleman, who, having made this statement, acknowledges an expected deficiency of £650,000—having fixed him to these specific figures, let me state what the balances really were, as against this £1,853,336. On the 1st August the actual amount of consolidated revenue in the Bank of New South Wales available for the cheque of the Treasurer was £31,197 19s. 6d. The whole of the consolidated revenue upon which he could draw as in round numbers £30,000, presenting a very pretty and striking contrast to the one million eight hundred and odd thousand pounds which it was convenient to state to the Assembly as the true condition of the public balances! If you will reflect for two or three moments, when I have distinctly shown you that Mr. Smart, in his place in the Assembly, was guilty, for party purposes, of gross and wilful deception, I am quite content to leave it in your hands as to which of the two you are likely to believe in reference to recent personal and private matters of which I desire to say nothing further. (Cheers.) In making these statements as to the public balances I desire to exonerate from blame the officers of my establishment. I have known many of the officers of the Treasury for a number of years as honest and upright men; but they are the victims of a bad system. It was the duty of the Minister of the day to have brought about such a reformation as that errors of this kind could not creep into public accounts. (Hear, hear.) And now I will tell you exactly how the error arises. The cash of the Government is kept in the Bank of New South Wales, to the credit of one account called the General Fund Account. The whole of the consolidated revenue—the lodgement money, and in fact the whole of the public money which goes into the hands of the Government—is kept to the credit of one account; but the expenditure of that money is kept to the debit of nearly a thousand accounts of public officers who draw cheques against the revenue. These cheques are debited to the classified accounts. So that the Treasurer has been in the habit of stating the gross balance, and not the nett balance. He has stated the balance before deducting from it all those payments by cheque which stand at the debit of other officers in other accounts. The reason these debits are not restored to the general fund is this—that the Treasury accounts are a month behind the bank accounts. There was only a monthly settlement. I have, however, arranged matters so that the proceedings in the Treasury shall be concurrent with those in the bank. As far as the office is concerned it arises from a bad system of keeping accounts. If these debits had been transferred to the general fund account the balances would have agreed to a shilling. It is like a man issuing a number of cheques that come in and are not paid off at the same moment of time. While the credit account at the bank shows £500,000, the expenditure in the other accounts has been actually made. The true way is to show every week the gross credit, deduct the debit, and shew the net balance [some one in the crowd here asked a question which the reporter did not hear]. Surely you must know that it is not the business of a clerk to suggest to a Minister to alter the system: he would get the sack immediately (laughter). The fault lays with the employer. Under the late Government, if any one had stated that there was anything wrong in the system he would have been dismissed immediately. But I shall be happy to answer your questions by-and-bye. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member then said it had been industriously circulated that they did not intend to keep faith with the public servants, and in contradiction to any such rumours, he might state that whatever contracts were entered into by the late Government the new administration would honestly and bona fide keep. He hoped after this announcement they would not have letters in the newspapers, speeches on the hustings, or rumours that they intended to break faith with the public servants or withdraw from any legal engagements. The electors are well aware that during the administration of Mr. Cowper, although he had been returned time after time by the city under circumstances of unmistakable honour, he has never done any thing for the city; on the contrary, the annual grant of £10,000 voted to the city, had never been paid over, but held against the sewerage debt. Now, whatever promises I made to you on the 9th of January last, when speaking from these hustings, in reference to the city—promises I intended to fulfil as a private member, I will honestly endeavour to carry out as a Minister of the Crown. I do not, on the ground that I have become a member of the Government, intend to turn round and repudiate my promises. Whilst alluding to matters relating to the city, I may state that if I remain in office six months this £10,000 shall be paid over to the City Treasurer, and I will endeavour to make arrangements in some way to have the debt between the Government and the corporation stated and adjusted so that it can be submitted to Parliament for satisfactory settlement. As to the City Common, I shall also do my best to have that question settled at the earliest period. I have already stated my opinion that the citizens are entitled to city land, and that the land of the city ought not to be sold for the purposes of general expenditure. You, by your presence and aggregation, by the engagement of a large population in industrial pursuits and avocations, have given value to these lands, and I do not see the justice or propriety of deriving money from the sale of them to be expended in building bridges or making roads five hundred miles away. I will do my best to see that they are placed in the hands of trustees, or otherwise vested as a city endowment. I need scarcely tell you that in verification of the old proverb that a man is seldom a prophet in his own country, I have been rejected at the Glebe in favour of Mr. Smart, a gentleman whose parliamentary career is before you, and of whose character public or private I do not desire to speak. Having been so rejected by the constituency in which I reside, I came to the electorate in which I was born, and where I have passed most of my life since I was cradled, and for the reception you gave me I cannot but express the most heartfelt assurance of my profound gratitude. The distinction of representing you in Parliament was long coveted by me, and warmly sympathising with the people, I am anxious, as I feel it my duty as well as my ardent desire, to exert the utmost of my abilities to serve you honestly and faithfully. I have now finally to say this—you did me the honour on Wednesday week to assemble in large numbers at the Masonic Hall, and gave me a flattering and triumphant reception. It seems that I am now to be opposed by Mr. Bunting; I hope you will not, however, treat the contest with the ridicule it deserves, but vote for me to-morrow not simply to beat Mr. Bunting, but that I may return to Parliament backed by the largest number of votes ever recorded for a city member. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. JABEZ BUNTING, on advancing to the front of the hustings, was met by an overwhelming outburst of "baas," hisses, and jocular vociferations. He persisted, however, in making a speech, only fragments of which were audible during the temporary lulling of the uproar, and even an appeal from the Returning-officer failed to stay the good humoured uproar, as the electors seemed determined to enjoy this as the funny part of the proceedings, treating it as a comic afterpiece following a serious drama. Having battled for a hearing for a quarter of an hour, during the whole of which time the shouts, hisses, and racy interjections continued, the noise being intensified as the speaker attempted to be more than usually forcible, until there was a loud and united chorus of "baas," he retired, all that we could gather from what he said being that Mr. Eagar was the only member of the new Ministry that he objected to. He was however recalled, the Returning-officer intimating that some of the electors desired to ask him a few questions. On coming forward he was met by a score of voices, making such inquiries as "How should you like to be Treasurer?" "Would you, if you could obtain the office of Inspector of Nuisances, do the duties honestly and faithfully?" "Would you like to be a watch-house keeper?" or "Would you prefer the billet of hangman?" "What did you do with Mrs Collins's furniture?" &c.

The RETURNING-OFFICER announced that Mr. Bunting had demanded a poll, which would take place between the hours of eight a.m. and four p.m. to-morrow (this day).

A vote of thanks to the Returning-officer, proposed by Mr. EAGAR, was carried with acclamation, and briefly responded to by Mr. THORNTON, who thanked the electors for "the orderly way in which they had conducted themselves." (Laughter.)

THE LAWYER: HIS CHARACTER AND RULE OF HOLY LIFE. (After the manner of George Herbert's "Country Parson.")

[CONCLUDED.]

CHAPTER XXV.

THE LAWYER'S REGARD FOR PROFESSIONAL RULES.

THE lawyer shuns their opinion who regard the professors of the law as an order whose interests are at variance with those of society, and therefore to be protected by walls and bulwarks raised in self-defence. Lawyers were appointed to live for society, not society formed for them to live by. Hence in those rules which they make for their conduct towards one another and towards their fellow-citizens, the lawyer regards these as of no binding force which clash with the welfare of society at large; and though to the other rules of his order he pays that deference which courtesy towards his fellow labourers in the work of justice demands, he ever remembers the good of society and the principles of equity whereby to relax their vigour. Thus though it be a rule of his profession that no lawyer confer on business with a client, except at the instance of an attorney (and such rule, in the present state of the law, serves to useful purposes), yet if one be so poor that he cannot pay an attorney's costs, nor find one who will of charity undertake his cause, the lawyer willingly listens to the case of such an one, and at once gives him the advice he seeks; or if he need assistance such as may be best given by an attorney, commends him to some charitable practitioner who will lend his aid to the distressed. In all such matters the lawyer looks to the intent of the rule; and so the abatements he makes from the rigour of it be made in honour, with a clear conscience, without left-handed designs of self-interest or avarice, he cares not what censure he may incur from those who, considering the privileges of their orders as of more value than the good of society, for which alone that order exists, however wise they be in their own eyes, to others resemble the fool who stupidly thought he played on the organ when he only blew the bellows.

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE LAWYER'S REGARD FOR PROFESSIONAL CONFIDENCE.

The lawyer, like the divine, often comes, in the exercise of his calling, by reason of the confidence reposed in him, to the knowledge of public and private wrongs, which, had he arrived at it another way, he had been bound to reveal to the ministers of justice or to the parties injured. Now, however, that such matters have become known to him under the implied promise of secrecy, though he exhorts the person asking his counsel to do what is just, he dares not himself reveal what he has thus discovered, even though by so doing he would free the righteous cause from oppression. Thus, if one should, in asking counsel, confess that he has by fraud got possession of his neighbour's goods, though the lawyer shudders at the thought that one should knowingly persist in the commission of crime, refusing to make restitution; yet he dares not make known to the injured party his just rights, esteeming that he who has thus made him privy to his evil acts has done so under the confidence that he would not make them known: which confidence, though he does what he can to cause that it should not be reposed in him, yet having been reposed, he thinks he may not without wrong betray.

Still it may be that at times a higher duty shall oblige the lawyer to declare openly what he has thus learned in secret; though here, as in all questions concerning conflicting duties, as for instance—when a subject may lawfully resist the commands of his prince, or a child those of his parents—he finds it impossible, as it would be inexpedient, to define beforehand what circumstances will justify a deviation from the general rule of duty.

When the Church of England by her canons would determine the duty of a clergyman respecting matters revealed to him in confession, she forbids her ministers, "under pain of irregularity, to make known any crime or offence committed to their trust and secrecy, for the unburdening of the offender's conscience, except such as by the laws of the realm their own lives would be called in question by concealing." Now, though the law of the land permits to its professors and servants a privilege in regard of matters confided to them in the discharge of their professional duty which it denies to all others, giving them liberty, even when interrogated by the Judge, to decline an answer to any question which would oblige them to reveal such matters, the lawyer at times finds cases arise in which right, reason, and conscience demand that he waive the exercise of this privilege—as if he sees one about to suffer for a crime of which another has confessed himself the perpetrator—or if treason, murder, or any other heinous crime about to be committed, could, by the disclosure of facts entrusted to him, be averted. In such cases the lawyer thinks himself at liberty to reveal so much as may be necessary, considering that the promise he has made being but implied, conditions and exceptions must be implied also.

For the rest, the lawyer regards it not as any breach of the confidence reposed in him, when, being entrusted with the conduct of a cause, he discovers to the Court all that is material to the just decision of it. Thus, if being employed to demand at the hands of the law a sum of money clearly due, he might by some concealment cause that double the sum be adjudged, he stays not in such case to ask liberty of his client, but at once makes known to the Court what he deems necessary to the ends of justice; considering that to do otherwise were to act injuriously to his client in imputing to him dishonest aims.

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE LAWYER IN VACATION.

The lawyer in vacation is like a field lying fallow, reposing from past and preparing for future labours; there is neither ploughing, nor sowing, nor reaping—neither books, nor courts, nor fees; yet here and there a flower or plant springs up. Wherever he chances to be, the lawyer refuses not advice to the poor, neither omits any opportunity which offers of reconciling differences or preventing litigation. More than this, in the business of his calling he cares not to do, not only because for the most part the health of his body and mind require these seasons of rest, but more especially because he fears lest by an unbending application to the study of the law, he make narrow his mind. (1) For, strive as he may after the larger and higher principles of natural law, much of his time, he finds, must of necessity be employed in the study of those minute distinctions which the ingenuity of lawyers, aided by the infinite variety of human events, and the imperfection of positive laws has, by little and little, compelled the diffidence of Judges to sanction. Now, lest this microscopic study should injure his moral and intellectual vision, the lawyer delights, during these seasons of relaxation, to climb the hills which surround the narrow valley where the scene of his daily labour lies, and to view from their tops the glories of creation set before him by the hand of Almighty love. And now he frequents the joyous halls of imagination, where the handmaid poesy waits upon his feasts, and crowns with a more sparkling wreath the cup of sober-minded pleasure; or seeks the cool groves of philosophy, where discursive thought and inventive reason supply invigorating viands to enlarge and strengthen the mind. With these, if opportunity offer, he seeks in travel to expand his knowledge, as well of nature and art as of men and manners. If he bends his steps to foreign lands, he inquires, in the States through which he passes, concerning the condition of the people, noting what of excellent or defective he observes in the institutions of each, and the sources whence derived; as whether of old standing and growing out of ancient laws, or whether the fruit of modern legislation. If, as he loves rather, he betake himself to the hospitable homes of friends in his native land, he omits no opportunity of acquainting himself with whatever of useful and charitable exists in the public or private institutions of the neighbourhood; and where he may be of service (as strangers often may), he spares no labour necessary to that end. Especially he delights to further those designs which have in view the promotion of religion, knowing that where piety advances all good things will quickly follow in her train.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE LAWYER'S HUMANITY.

The lawyer, when he became a lawyer, ceased not to be a man; when he received from the guardians of his order the badges of his calling, he laid not aside any of those sympathies which should warm every brother of the human race. If the Pagan could say, "*Homo sum; humani nihil a me alienum puto,*" much more can he. God, by his providence, has appointed divers orders of men in the State, even as he has in the human body set various members, no one of which can say to another, "I have no need of thee." And as in this latter, though to each belongs his proper office, yet through all circulates one common blood, one common life, and all are moved by one common spirit; so in the body politic, though to each member is allotted its respective vocation and ministry, yet from all God will one day demand an account of every talent, small or great, which he has committed to their charge; nor shall he who has neglected the duties of a father, brother, master, or friend, be in that day excused, because he has laboured in his calling as a clergyman, a physician, or a husbandman. Hence the lawyer, while he is diligent in the peculiar duty of his calling, strives heartily, and as unto God, to fulfil every other duty to his neighbour, following in His steps who visited our earth, not alone that He might be a sacrifice for sins, but also an example unto us of godly life; and that we might approve ourselves His faithful followers and friends, not by the barren leaves of Christian profession, but by the good fruit of that vine into which He has ingrafted us.

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE LAWYER'S CHARITY.

The lawyer, though no divine, is so far versed in the knowledge of Divine things as to have learned that outward alms alone earn not a title to the virtue of charity. Not that outward alms are therefore to be omitted. Charity is the end of the commandment, and the end of the commandment is love—love to God first, and love to our neighbours afterwards, as of necessity springing from love to God; not such love as was that of the lawyer in the Gospel, who, willing to escape, sought by the difficulty of the letter to make void the spirit. The lawyer's charity is his religion, and his religion is his life; and his life is twofold—*inward* in his heart, and *outward* in his actions. For that which is inward he accounts not to man, but to God—not but that he is herein so far faith accountable to man, as that inward faith must of necessity bear outward fruit; yet forasmuch as faith is an inward germ, it binds not to a legal observance of particular outward duties in set forms. These howbeit in the general shall scarcely be found wanting.

First: His heart being on fire for the spiritual welfare of his fellow-men, it cannot be but that where opportunity offers, he will speak a word in season concerning Divine things to those with whom business brings him into converse, and often in so doing shall it be his chance to meet a fellow-traveller to the celestial city. Be (1) it he but casts his bread upon the waters, yet after many days shall it return to him again. This fire in his heart makes him watchful likewise for the external welfare of Christ's Church, and of those religious institutions which are formed to support its mutilated fabric. To these he willingly imparts somewhat of the store with which God has blessed him, and, so far as the duties of his calling will permit, some what also of his time and labour.

Secondly: In his care for the spiritual, he forgets not the temporal wants of his fellow men; for, though the inferior, this is yet the second part of charity. If he can spare time, he himself visits the sick and seeks out distress: otherwise, that which, according to the Apostle's injunction, he has "earned with his hands to give to him that needeth," he entrusts to faithful deacons to dispense withal; or with the widow's mite throws it into the treasury of some refuge dear to the fatherless and the widow. But principally the lawyer delights in relieving those wants of the poor which concern law and justice. This he considers his proper alms, as being the advocate of Heaven, whose peculiar care the poor are.

CHAPTER XXX.

THE LAWYER'S COURTESY.

The lawyer's courtesy flows from his charity; and as this reaches all men so does the other; for how should he, whose thoughts are love towards all, willingly in his outward demeanour give offence to any?

Yet because what is never so well intended shall sometimes fail in its aim, and courtesy has limits, in that it may not pass a smile of compliance on that which inwardly we disapprove; the lawyer observes measures in his courtesy. For the exercise of this virtue he finds infinite occasions, some of which in particular, as of more frequent occurrence, and of weightier import, he prepares himself for beforehand; and, *First, in his demeanour before Judges.* To these are due not courtesy alone, but reverence also, as to God's vicegerents. Therefore he omits no occasion of showing them due respect,—as in restraining all unseasonable mirth in their presence, in rising from his seat upon their entering or leaving the Court, and in other such like attentions. He thinks not that time or trouble lost which upholds respect to them to whom respect is due. Yet should the Judge at any time, either from impatience refuse to hear fully his client's case, or from prejudice manifest an undue bias against it, the lawyer dares to remonstrate; yet in such a respectful manner, as if it at the moment recall not the Judge to a sense of his duty, shall so weigh upon his mind that afterwards he will repair the injury.

Secondly, in his conduct to his brother barristers. To these, courtesy is especially due as members of the same calling, and fellow labourers in the work of justice. Hence, the lawyer is ever ready to assist them with his knowledge and counsel, not fretfully resenting all interruptions of his own business, nor carelessly giving advice no matter whether sound or not, nor being jealous because a younger than himself shall profit by his knowledge; but with a single eye considering how he may best aid others in that work of justice which he has himself at heart. Yet here he needs to be on his guard, that courtesy cause him not to sanction that in the conduct of others which he himself thinks wrong, whether it be an unworthy act or profane jest. Haply he shall hereby earn for himself ridicule and reproach; yet these he gladly bears, and more also, so he might recall such as thus offend to sober thought upon the sinfulness of such practices.

Thirdly, in his intercourse with attorneys. These, in despite of the ill name which the evil practices of too many among them have brought upon their brotherhood, he regards with esteem, and considers their duties scarce a whit inferior in dignity to his own. But as elsewhere, the corruption of the best engendereth the worst, so is it here; and while he who is true to his own conscience and faithful to his client's interests, is as gold thrice tried in the fire; he who is faultless to the one, and faithless to the other, stinks in the nostrils of all good men. In his intercourse with an attorney, the lawyer's manner is according to his mind. If he have not full confidence in his integrity, he is wary that he be not betrayed, by word or look, into approval; but if, on the other hand, he meet one in whom he may confide, he freely communes with him as with a friend and fellow worker.

For the rest, the lawyer, while he guards himself against the faults of others, is jealous that he be not unwittingly led into those faults to which his calling renders him peculiarly liable; such as are—an over-confident manner, rudely bearing down all that opposes; an irritable temper, ready to rise at every supposed offence and assume the privilege of abuse; a spirit of dispute, quick to discover matter about which to differ, and ever ready to defend that side to which it has adopted by captious arguments, rhetorical artifice, or unwarranted sarcasm. Rather he conforms to those precepts which the Apostle Peter (himself of an abrupt and hasty temper) enjoins, "Be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another; love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous."—1 Peter.

CHAPTER XXXI.

THE LAWYER'S HOSPITALITY.

The lawyer may not, like the country gentleman or man of wealth, give up much of his time to the entertainment of guests; yet, according to his power, he forgets not to be hospitable, bethinking him how many delights flow from the exercise of this most excellent virtue; as how, first, it serves for the comfort of our earthly pilgrimage, making known to friends the passing events in the history of each, and by this communion enhancing the joys and alleviating the sorrows of life. Then, again, he considers how grateful it is to the wearied spirit of those who have no home to be admitted among the cheerful scenes of domestic life; and how much more grateful still it is to him who, enjoying thus the luxury of doing good, learns that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Moreover, by hospitality, opportunities are opened up for combined efforts in the cause of charity which had not otherwise been made.

The lawyer dislikes altogether the practice of those who, when they will be hospitable, put on a mask, heaping their table with unaccustomed dainties, and surrounding it with strange faces. He thinks that a friend will not the less like his feast because it invites not to intemperance, nor will be the sooner weary of his company because they present not the excitement of novelty. Yet when occasion offers, he delights to give the stranger a place at his board; especially he loves to entertain those whom business brings to the town, and whom the unknown multitude reminds of their solitude; and while he collects from them knowledge of how the country flourishes, how the poor fare, if the laws be respected, if religion be honoured; he, in turn, entertains them with all of charitable, or useful, or instructive, which the busy energy of city life, and the versatile pursuits of his own calling, have made him familiar with. If at any time he observe one anxious to seek a doubtful right at the hands of the law, he brings him to the Courts, and there shows him the ordeal through which he must pass before the maimed limb of his estate be restored; so that if his appetite after law be not over keen, he may reflect on the many unforeseen difficulties which lie in his way, and rather sit down content with the loss of an uncertain advantage, than incur a certain loss of so much time, and trouble, and expense.

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE LAWYER A CITIZEN.

The lawyer, though watchful to obey the laws of the land which it is his peculiar duty to know, deems not of himself as having then fulfilled his duties, when he has outwardly conformed to all that they command, and abstained from all that they forbid, so that he may lie down at night secure from the rods and axes of the ministers of justice. Love, not fear, is the spring of his obedience; and hence he refuses no office, however burdensome, whereby he may serve the commonwealth, nor shrinks from the discharge of any duty which his station imposes, no matter how much the performance of it may expose him to the odium of those whom it is his interest to please. Some he observes who, careless about the welfare of the commonwealth, and anxious only for

gives protection upon those living under them; so forms of church government, inferior in kind, albeit they confer not like privileges on those subject to them which others more perfect do, may not be deemed secured of God. And as in the civil constitution of mankind the subjects of one state, because of the overflow of evil therein, or for other sufficient causes, may place themselves beneath the dominion of another; so in the kingdom of Christ upon earth nothing hinders but that one born and nursed beneath one form of church government, on urgent occasions thereto moving, may subject himself to the rules and ordinances of other forms—not but that there may be, as in civil communities, assemblies of mere rebels and outlaws; so in churches, confederacies of mere schismatics and separatists. But to whom particularly we will give these names, especially when lapse of time in the Providence of God, shall have imparted a stability to government at the first it may be founded in schism; it behoves us carefully to consider.

The lawyer having thus considered of ecclesiastical affairs, though it may be he values beyond all others that form of Church government under which he has himself been nourished, yet deems not so of other forms but that he may wish them God speed, and, if need be, give his countenance and aid for the maintenance of them, especially of such as the civil power has tolerated; so, however, that in no case he will be found the advocate of those which, though holding the name of Christian Churches, deny that foundation upon which every true Church must, of necessity, be built.

CHAPTER XXXV.

THE LAWYER UPON SUNDAYS.

The lawyer during the week betimes him constantly of the returning day of rest, and so arranges his business (1.) that he may early on the Saturday lay aside all professional care, and make the evening of that day a preparation for the Sunday. This he does, in having found how hard it is on that day to dismiss from his mind all thoughts of worldly affairs: how ever and again, in the midst of his public and private devotions, some matter of urgent business will obtrude itself upon him and distract his attention. Hence the lawyer, upon the Sunday, not only abstains from the labour of his calling, but carefully lays aside his briefs and papers, lest the sight of them should recall his thoughts to his week-day's business. Not that he thinks of the Sunday as of a day of ceremonial observances to be slavishly pursued: on the contrary, he considers it to have been ordained by God himself in the patriarchal and Jewish churches for the ease and solace of men in communion with their Maker: and when it behoved the Christian Church to appoint a festival whereupon to celebrate the triumph of its head over the powers of sin and death, it set apart for that purpose each seventh day, thereby at once to bring to mind the labour of God's love in the creation and in the redemption of the world. The lawyer receiving thus this holy day, rejoices in the opportunity it gives him of turning his thoughts from the fleeting things of this world, to the eternal joys of that Heaven of which it is a type. To this end he is a constant attendant at public worship; and that he may be found an attentive observer, as of all other laws, so of the laws of his church, if some weighty hindrance prevent not, he prefers before all other places his parish church; and to whatever place he goes to that he is constant, and this for these reasons:—First, he considers that it serves to the maintenance of order, and has in it, as it were, the sentiment and notion of law. Next, he reflects that of hearing many preachers there is no end; and that variety in this matter rather engenders a judgment of the preacher, than an humble seeking of truth from his lips. Moreover he frequents the temple of God mainly to pray to Him, and to praise Him for all His manifold mercies. If, as must at times happen, the preacher be careless or indifferent, he thinks not of public worship as thereby rendered naught, but humbly repairs his loss by more deep thought of his own infirmities, or by studying the sermon of some holy father of the church. When public worship is ended, he goes forth to meditate, like Isaac of old, upon divine things, or communes with a friend as he walks, after the manner of the disciples journeying to Emmaus; or he seeks out the poor, or visits the sick, or assists the minister in catechising the poor children of his parish, or pursues such other work of mercy as God puts into his heart. At night he either entertains such of his relatives or immediate friends as have not a home around whose festive board to gather, or is entertained by them. There he enjoys cheerful converse seasoned with the salt of godliness; and having joined in worship round the altar of the family with whom he has kept this festival of the church, he retires to rest with an unburdened mind, refreshed for the duties of the following week; his whole soul exulting in the foretaste thus given of the joys of that kingdom for whose coming he daily prays.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

THE LAWYER BECOME JUDGE.

The lawyer, whose probity and ability have commended him to his prince's favour, refuses not at his hands the sacred office of judge, but with holy fear and many prayers enters thereon. And now he, who before was but the servant of men, according to the will of God, becomes, by the appointment of his prince, the minister of God, to dispense those laws which by God's authority committed to him for that purpose the prince with his Parliament has ordained. Hence he ever keeps in remembrance the height and holiness of his office, for the due administration of which he must one day give an account before the Judge of judges; and labours earnestly to discharge its duties in all things according to the holy will of God.

His first care is, that the robe of justice which he wears be spotless. Gifts blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words even of the righteous. Therefore he refuses all manner of gifts, not caring to trust his own integrity. With God there is no respect of persons. Why then should there be with him His minister? Before his judgment seat the ties of blood and the bonds of friendship call in vain for favour or affection; they are as though they were not. In this matter he commends the practice of Sir Thomas More, who to his relations who prayed his favour was wont to reply, "I assure thee on my faith, that if the parties will at my hands call for justice and equitie, then although it were my father whom I reverence dearly, that stood on one side, and the devil whom I hate extremely were on the other side, his cause being just, the devil of me should have his right."

The next care of the judge is, that he may discharge his office with wisdom: to which end it behoves that he have, first, a knowledge of the law, law he is to administer; this he is studious to attain by unwearied study, as knowing the scandal which an ignorant judge brings upon the administration of law; and, secondly, sound sense in the application of them to the circumstances of affairs which come before him in judgment. And here, two difficulties present themselves—one, when the law, which he is to dispense, is in itself unjust; the other, when the law, though good in its intent, is by the craft of wicked men perverted to work evil. Now the judge, though it grieve him to be made the means by which to work injustice, yet dares not refuse to declare what the law is. For he is sworn to administer the laws as made, not to make new laws. His duty is *jus dicere* not *jus dare*; and so that evil intent of his cause—the law to work injustice, he considers not himself, therefore, culpable because the sentence he pronounces fails to dispense what is altogether just. Yet he labours that the law may bear little injurious as possible, for, first, if the law itself be bad, he earnestly seeks from those to whom the power belongs, that it be repealed or altered; and again, if the law be good in its intent, but by wicked men is drawn to work injustice, (2) unless plainly obliged he suffers not the law to be so perverted, but where without sophistry he may, gives effect to the spirit rather than to the letter; and where he is so constrained that he may not decide otherwise than according to the letter, he metes out only what he must, and sharply reproves him and his counsellors who have turned the law to such ill purposes.

Next to wisdom the judge brings courage to his work. The cause of the widow, the fatherless, and the oppressed, though all forsake he dares to uphold against the mightiest, yea, even against the very prince at whose hands he has received his office. The fear of God being ever before his eyes leaves no place for the fear of man. But chiefly in times of political trouble the courage of the judge is seen. The sullen frown of the enraged prince, and the tumultuous murmur of an angry populace, are alike unnoticed by him: and when all the pillars of the state are shaken, and the minds of men quail at the confusion that prevails, his unshaken courage and judgment, like oil poured upon troubled waters, is able to produce a calm. Next to courage the judge brings patience. He does not hastily suffer himself to be prepossessed with either side of the case until the whole be heard; nor does he consider any case heard till he has patiently exhausted all that either party have to allege, whether of fact or of argument, as knowing how often matters of moment in the heat of debate are overlooked even by the most experienced.

And now having added to probity wisdom, and to wisdom courage, and to courage patience, he sums up all with a holy zeal and love for truth and justice, which quicken and enliven him in the work in which he is engaged, and cause that forgetful of himself he yields up his whole powers to His service who has called him to so exalted a station.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

THE LAWYER'S DEATH.

It was a bright evening in summer, the rays of the declining sun fell full upon the couch where the old man lay; round him were gathered his wife and children awaiting in sorrow, rendered peaceful by the sweet smile which played upon his lips, the moment that should summon to a better world, the departing spirit of a kind and affectionate father, husband, and friend. His domestics stood in the farther part of the room, scarce able to suppress their sobs.

He raised himself with an effort, and spoke: "Beloved wife and children, God, who has comforted and succoured me all my days, bless, preserve, and keep you. To His heavenly guidance I commit you: despise it not: His law, written on your hearts, set before you in the ensample of His dear Son, and taught you by His Holy Spirit, regard with holy fear, and follow with fervent love. Let no power force you, no wealth tempt you, no earthly splendour allure you to swerve from allegiance to this holy law. I have lived long, and, in a long life have been often called upon to encounter the enemies of this holy law, and often, alas! have I seen it trodden down and trampled under their feet: but sure I am that no peace fills their dwellings, no joy swells their breasts; but the worm that dies not gnaws their hearts, and a fearful looking for of fiery indignation haunts and disturbs them in the midst of their loftiest triumphs. Envy not, then, the oppressor, and choose none of his ways. Listen to the law of God—the voice of heavenly wisdom; it will be a light to your feet, and a lamp to your path; a shield against every fear, and a shelter from every blast; its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its paths are peace. Such has it ever been to me amid all the strifes and struggles of this transitory life; and now I go, where wars and tumults shall be no more heard, where strife and struggle shall have no more place but justice, peace, and righteousness shall reign eternal. Father of Heaven, grant that in that kingdom of bliss we may all meet and join in the song of praise 'unto Him that has loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father. To Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.'"

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

THE LAWYER'S PRAYER.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, who in thy providence hast appointed governors, thy ministers, to dispense thy laws among all nations: grant that we and all thy servants ministering in things pertaining to justice, may faithfully fulfil the duties of our calling, with a single eye to thy glory, and a humble dependence upon thy Heavenly blessing. Mercifully, we beseech thee, turn us away from all undue wealth and earthly power; keep us from all pride, malice, and evilspeaking; preserve us from the fear of evil men and the contagion of ill example; strengthen in us the love of truth, justice, and mercy; and so quicken our hearts with love towards thee that we loving thee above all things, may so love our fellow creatures even as thou hast loved us. Grant this, O Lord, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

EXPLORATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

JOURNAL OF AN EXPEDITION TO POINT CULVER, IN THE AUSTRALIAN BIGHT.

(From the Perth Inquirer and Commercial News, September 23.)

We have received from the Colonial Secretary's Office a copy of Messrs. Dempster's Journal, from which we extract the following information:—

The party consisted of Messrs. Charles, Edward, Andrew, and William Dempster, together with an Albany native named Billy. The horses, twelve in number, with saddles, &c., were contributed by Mr. Dempster; the Government found pack-saddles, firearms, nautical instruments, charts, &c.; Messrs. Larnach and Padbury found a vessel for dispatch to Point Malcom, with provisions, for which they were to be remunerated by one third each of all available land discovered.

The party started from Buckland on the 7th of April, arriving at Albany on the 18th, where they remained until the 28th instant. At this date the Amelia not having made her appearance, they started from Bremer Bay, Messrs. Larnach and A. Dempster awaiting the arrival of the coaster at Albany. G. Maxwell, who expressed an earnest desire to accompany the party for the purpose of collecting botanical specimens, joined them at Albany with four horses. April 28—Travelled 14 miles and encamped at Warburton Swamp. Feed scanty. April 29—Travelled 16 miles, encamping at the Warrup Hills; very little water. April 30—Camp at Pallinup River; distance 30 miles; scanty feed and brackish water. May 1—Billy shot a swan; travelled 16 miles, and camped at a swamp with but little feed. May 2—Camp at Dillon Bay; distance 16 miles. May 3—Arrived at Bremer Bay (distance 4½ miles), and wait there until 8th instant. A small extent of sheep pasture at this Bay occupied by Mr. Pellin. The Amelia arrived on the 7th, and the party, being joined by Messrs. Larnach and A. Dempster, started on the 8th for Cape Arid, where the Amelia was to meet them. Proceeded to the River Gardiner, where the feed was passable, with no water for the horses. Country passed over scrubby; distance 16 miles. May 9—Travelled through scrubby plains, crossed the Fitzgerald River, where there was good grass but no water, and encamped at Middle Mount Barren; water, but very little grass. May 10.—Travelled through scrubby, worthless country for 30 miles, and camp on a branch of the Phillips River; get sufficient water in its bed, rain having fallen. May 11—Remain at Phillips River, and sink for water, which proves to be salt. May 12—Shift to Meddler's Gully two miles; good grass, but no water. May 13—Eighteen miles through scrubby country; obtained water at a gully, and camped at a creek, with good feed but no water. May 14—Travelled 28 miles over scrubby plains and swamps; camp at Starvation Boat Harbour; neither feed nor water. May 15—25 miles over scrubby plains, tea-tree swamps and salt lakes. Camped at Oldfield River; good feed, and water obtain d by digging. Halted until May 17, when the party travelled 35 miles through similar country, and camped at the Young River; feed good, water brackish. Rain on this and two previous days. May 18—Cross the Lort River (salt), pass over 15 miles of scrubby country, and camp at a swamp without feed; got water by digging. May 19—Scrubby plains; cross the Gage River (salt), which empties itself into a large salt lake; a chain of salt lakes bordering the coast range, which is high and of limestone formation. Camp at a swamp with good feed, and water by digging. Owing to the sulphurous taste of the water, this place was named Sulphur Swamp. May 20—23 miles; country scrubby, with occasional patches of tolerable feed. Camp on brook with running brackish water. May 21—Abreast of Esperance Bay. More grass than had been seen throughout the journey; travelled 18 miles, and camped at a granite mount without feed, but plenty of rain water in the rocks. May 22—33 miles over open scrubby plains, with occasional granite knobs. Camp at creek with peaty soil, which shook under foot. Water saltish. May 23—3 miles; found plenty of grass close to the beach at New Harbour, but no water; obtained sufficient rain water for party and horses. Raining this and two previous days. May 24—7 miles; scrubby open plains, and patches of indifferent grass. Camp on a creek about a mile from the beach; a spring of good water and about 20 acres of good grass. Water in creeks still salt and running. May 25—15 miles; scrubby plains; cross two salt-water courses; camped at a small river, with tolerable feed and fresh water. Caught a native man, who appeared much frightened until Billy spoke to him, when he induced others to come. They were quite naked. May 26—Arrive at Cape Arid, and camp abreast of the Amelia, and 2 miles from the beach. Country generally scrubby; very little grass; granite formation; get sufficient water on the rocks. The Amelia arrived on the 20th, and had experienced heavy gales from the north, N.W. west, and S.W. Consider the harbour excellent for small craft. Named it Petit's Bay after the master of the Amelia. May 27—At camp. Bush natives alarmed and run away from the party. Got provisions on shore; made arrangements for Amelia to proceed to Bellinger Island between Cape Pasley and Point Malcolm, about a mile from the shore. May 28—Travelled 8 miles; camped at passable feed, and got water from the rocks. Country generally scrubby, with grassy patches and a peculiar bush, which the horses eat greedily. May 29—15 miles; pass over tolerable feeding ground, with patches of scrub. Shea-oaks met with. Camp on east side of Cape Pasley, with scanty and dry feed, and water on the granite rocks on the beach. May 30—At camp. Saw the Amelia pass and anchor under the island. Went and found some better feeding aground abreast of her. May 31—Heavy rain. Move to feed found yesterday; distance 5 miles, over thick scrub and limestone. Half an acre of grass at camp; no fresh water. June 1—At camp. Landed horse-corn and provisions. June 2—Searched for a harbour further to the eastward, and found a sandy cove E. of Point Malcolm, but too shallow for anchorage. June 3—At camp. Search for more feed, and find some 2 miles to S.E. June 4—Shift camp to spot selected yesterday. Good grass, but water has to be carried a mile. Surf too high for boat to land provisions. 5th, 6th, and 7th June.—At Bellinger Sand Plain Camp. Succession of strong gales, boat cannot land. June 8—At camp.—Light breeze, clear weather; boat lands corn and provisions. June 9—At camp. June 10—Start and camp 2 miles from Port Malcolm, passing over scrubby plains and dry beds of lakes. June 11th—Travelled along a narrow strip of land between the beach and a chain of lakes and swamps; occasional grassy patches. Camp behind a large sand plain and got water by digging. Mount Ragged N. 66 degrees W. June 12—Start N.N.W. course, over scrubby plains. Saw the smoke of a native fire, caught a man and a boy; the others decamped. They were without clothing. The man was a fine powerful fellow, about 5 feet 10 inches in height, and circumcised, as are a tribe of natives near Mount Kennedy. They were much frightened, particularly at the horses. Billy attempted, without success, to make himself understood. Mr. Larnach gave the man a handkerchief, and they departed. From the frequent marks on the trees, it would appear that the natives lived chiefly on grubs. Ascended a bank at the commencement of an extensive plain covered with marlock thickets and destitute of grass; returned to camp, after a weary day's travelling without food or water. June 13—At Eagle Hawk Camp. June 14—Passed a Bay named Israelite Bay, in honour of the blacks. Went along the beach, and camped without feed or water. June 15—Left Desolation camp, and travelled along the beach 8 miles. Camp on E. side of a sand patch, with good grass, though dry, and good water by digging. Thickets of wattle. June 16—At Wattle Camp. June 17—Travelled over marshy plains, skirted by marlock and tea tree thickets; pass over a large sand patch. Camp in poor feed; water by digging. June 18—Proceed 4 miles inside sand patch. Camp in a valley with a little grass; water by digging. June 19—Camp Deception. Three of the party proceeded for 18 miles N. by E. through a most unpromising country of limestone formation thinly wooded with dwarf eucalyptus. The thicket then became close. From one of the highest trees could see nothing but level dense thickets, with the exception of one of the most eastern hills of Russell Range. After penetrating six miles further, and finding the thickets become more dense and impracticable, they decided to return, and camped on a small plot of grass eight miles from the return point; no water for horses. June 20—Steer to the E. of outward track, through similar country; descended the cliffs behind Point Culver and arrive at Camp Deception. June 21—Returned to Wattle Camp. June 22—At Wattle Camp. June 23—Return to Eagle-Hawk Camp, after travelling 38 miles. June 24—At Camp. June 25—Return to Bellinger Sand Plain Camp. June 26 and 27—at camp. Surf too high for boat to land. June 28—Boat lands all the stores, &c. Mr. Larnach embarks to proceed to Albany with first fair wind. June 29—Shoeing horses. June 30—Maxwell started overland for Albany, with one of the crew of the Amelia; gave them six week's provisions. July 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5—At camp shoeing horses, repairing harness, &c. July 6—Amelia sailed. July 7 and 8—At camp, shoeing horses, weighing and packing provisions, &c. July 9—Start for Mount Ragged; pass through scrubby plains; surprised at discovering the track of two horses going towards and returning from Point Malcolm. Camp under Mount Ragged amidst marlock trees, without grass or water. July 10—Proceed to east end of the mount and discover tracks and camp of a strange party with six horses, who had left behind an empty brandy bottle, and the remains of a gunpowder canister, apparently broken by an accidental explosion: the tracks about a fortnight old. Followed the tracks for eight miles, and camped in a small patch of feed and water, apparently unnoticed by the strange party. July 11—At camp. Mr. A. Dempster and Billy walk to the Mount to survey the country to the northward, and report it to be flat and unpromising. July 12—Travelled through thickets and scrubby country, and camp at a granite hill with scanty feed but plenty of water. Bearing of Mount Ragged 62 degrees, Cape Arid 170 degrees. July 13—Scrubby plains and marlock thickets, 13 miles W. by N. Camp at granite hill, with little grass, and water on the rocks. July 14—Steer for a hill bearing N.W.; travel through dense thickets for 15 miles, and camp without feed or water. July 15—Push through dense thickets for 9 miles, and arrive at the hill. No feed or water. Saw tracks of strange party, where they had cut down she-oaks for their horses to eat. They had arrived by a northerly course, and returned to the coast. Camped at a granite hill seven miles from this spot, passing through beds of salt lakes and marlock thickets; a little grass and water. July 16—At camp. Find the hill to be the Mount Heywood of Mr. Roe. Mount Ney (where he left and afterwards recovered a horse in 1848) bore S.W. 5 miles. July 17—Camp at Mount Ney, a pretty little spot with a few acres of good soil, and a spring of good water. July 18, 19, and 20 at camp. Raining. July 21—Camp at Mount Ridley bearing N.W. from Mount Ney. Passed through thickets and beds of lakes. Feed at Mount Ridley good, with water. July 22—At camp. Examine country from the Mount, and find the same description of worthless waste without any rise visible. July 23—Travelled twenty-five miles through thickets and sandy country. Camped in marlock without feed, and little water. July 24—The country being of the same description to the northward, it was thought hazardous and useless to proceed further. Returned to Mount Ridley. July 25—At camp. Having made four unsuccessful attempts to return via Mount Kennedy the party decided upon coming home by the coast line via Jeerramungup. July 26—Steered S.S.W. for 25 miles through thickets, crossing several streams of brackish and salt water. July 27—Course S.S.W. through scrubby plains intersected by brackish streams. Camp at Sulphur Swamp. July 28—Proceeded to beach, distance two miles, over good grassy hills; saw Maxwell's return track, but no traces of strange party, and suppose they had landed from a vessel and returned on board. July 29—Camp at Young River. July 30—Rain. At Camp. July 31—Camp in a rich plot of grass; water brackish. August 1—Cross Oldfield River. August 2—Steered W. by N., crossing brooks and open scrubby plains. Camp on salt River. Billy shot two emus at one shot. August 3—Course W. by N. over undulating thick scrubby country. Camp on a grassy brook near Phillips River. August 4—At camp. August 5—Follow up Phillips River; country rough and stony. Camp on upper and western branch. Mount Barren 200 degrees, Eyre's Range 165 degrees, Mount Drummond, 95 degrees. August 6—Course W.S.W. over scrubby plains. Camp on salt brook with water in the rocks. August 7—Course W.S.W. over sandplains; cross Suset's River and camp at Dwatup, one of Mr. Hassell's stations. August 8—Travelled 28 miles. Camp at Little Jeeramungup. August 9—At camp. August 10—30 miles. Camp on a branch of the Pallinup, with little feed. August 11—Billy returns to Albany with a week's provisions and a gun to give Mr. Larnach. His conduct throughout had been pleasing and satisfactory to all. Camp at Police Station. August 12—Camp at Martinup. August 13—Camp at Yillinup. August 14—Camp at Quartermain's. August 15—Camp at Wagen Lake. August 16—At camp. August 17—35 miles. Camp at one of Mr. Quartermain's stations. August 18—Camp at Codgie Codgering. August 19—Camp at Killiburning. August 20—Arrive at Mr. J. W. Parker's. August 21.—Arrive home with the twelve horses; all in good health and spirits, having been absent four months and a half.

THE NEW COUNTRY TO THE NORTH-WEST.

Mr. James Turner, who returned from Nicol Bay in the Mystery, has furnished us with some information respecting the movements of the party, which we now publish. It appears that the Tien Tsin and the Mystery never met from the time the former vessel left Nicol Bay, on her return from the first trip, until the other day, when they joined each other at sea shortly before coming into Fremantle. This was owing to some misunderstanding, it having been agreed that the rendezvous should be at Turtle Island, off the De Grey; at least such was the impression of those on board the Mystery. In consequence of the Tien Tsin not arriving at Turtle Island, it was imagined that she was lost in a gale shortly after leaving Tien Tsin harbour; so that while the parties at the Harding were apprehensive of some accident to the Mystery, and the party who had started for the De Grey, those at the De Grey and in the cutter thought that all communication was stopped, in consequence of the loss of the Tien Tsin. When that vessel left Nicol Bay, a party, consisting of Messrs. Ridley, Hunt, and Nairn, with Dugald the native, proceeded towards the De Grey as far as Spit Point, twelve miles from the river, to discover a good country for driving the stock. They succeeded in finding an easy route, and returned to camp. During their journey they came in contact with some natives, who approached them early one morning apparently with hostile intentions, but upon riding up to them and firing a charge of shot over their heads, they disappeared, and did not afterwards attempt to come near the party. The natives numbered about eighteen. As soon as the necessary arrangements were made, Messrs. Nairn and Turner, on the 23rd June, proceeded with the stock towards the De Grey, but finding that the sheep travelled slowly, they went on ahead with the cattle (leaving the sheep to follow), and arrived at Spit Point on the 4th July. Here they found the Mystery, who had also left Tien Tsin Harbour on the 23rd June. Mr. Turner went on board, and Mr. Hunt accompanied Mr. Nairn back to meet the sheep, who were being driven quietly along. The Mystery went to Turtle Island, the appointed rendezvous (which is 15 miles off Point Larry), where they buried a letter, and erected a flagpole, to attract the attention of the Tien Tsin. The Mystery remained at Turtle Island until the 14th July, when, not deeming it safe to remain longer in so exposed an anchorage, she sailed for Mangrove Harbour, instructions being left for the Tien Tsin to follow. Mangrove Harbour is situated S.S.W. from Turtle Island, from which it is distant 30 miles, and from the De Grey 35 miles. This harbour was discovered by the Mystery, and so was Tien Tsin Harbour, when she first arrived, and before the larger craft made her appearance. The report was favourable, but fresh water not having been discovered near the coast, Mr. Padbury did not thing it advisable to disembark his stock in that direction. Upon the present occasion fresh water was discovered in two rivers, named the Dugald and the Turner, the former seven miles E.S.E. and the latter 13 miles S.S.W. of Mangrove Harbour. It was, however, thought that water could only be obtained in these localities at certain seasons, although it might be procured by digging. They deposited a letter for Mr. Nairn, on the 17th July, on the track six miles inland, which he obtained as he came along with the sheep on the 18th. He came on board for provisions, and went back to the sheep, which were then on the Dugald. The cutter then went over to Turtle Island to look after the Tien Tsin, and then proceeded to the De Grey. The De Grey, at its mouth, was dry at low water, and in fact for six miles to seaward at low water there was the beach, with a few channels, none of which could be defined as the river-channel. There was no harbour, the vessel lying in an open roadstead. At high water, outside the river, the depth was 18 feet spring tide, and 8 feet neap tide. Inside the river the depth was 12 feet at high tide. The cutter went up the river about a mile. Its banks at this spot showed the effects of inundations, but although liable to be flooded, the soil was good. When Mr. Nairn arrived, he fixed upon the permanent station about six miles from where the cutter was at anchor, on ground sufficiently elevated to be secure from inundation, and situated about a mile from one of Mr. Gregory's depots. There was scanty feed at the station itself, but in the neighbourhood there was an abundance of grass. Mr. Turner describes the country between the Harding and the De Grey, as far as Spit Point, as level, and states that during the whole distance, or about 100 miles, a spring-cart might have been driven with ease. For about half the distance they passed through spinifex country, with occasional patches of good grass; the other half was first-rate feeding country. Close to the station there was one plain, richly grassed, ten miles across in one direction, and twenty miles in another. There was but little timber, and that was confined to the watercourses. The party found plenty of good water as they went along with the sheep. When the stores were landed and carted to the station, the Mystery, after waiting four days for a spring tide, sailed (13th August), and proceeded to Shark's Bay for turtle, as all hands had been without meat for three months, owing to the stores brought by the Tien Tsin having been landed at Tien Tsin harbour, of which fact they were ignorant. They got three turtle and some schnappers at Shark's Bay, and finally sailed for Fremantle. The people at the De Grey were in high spirits, notwithstanding that they had been on short commons so long, their fare being damper, the small supply of three barrels of meat among twenty people having been long expended, and game being scarce. One emu, and a few rock kangaroos were shot, as well as a few ducks, and this was the sum total of food procured from the bush. Mr. Turner, who accompanied Mr. Gregory, has a higher opinion of the country now than he had on his first trip, although he then thought much of it, and all the members of the party consider it to be first-rate. He describes Mangrove Harbour to be more safe than Tien Tsin Harbour, the latter being exposed to the wind from N.W. to N.E., when there is a heavy sea. He says that a mounted shepherd could look after 10 or 15,000 sheep, as in some parts of Victoria, the plains being so extensive and unencumbered. As regards the climate, the weather was fine and cool after May, and during the stay of the Mystery there were five different falls of rain. One occurred two days after the Tien Tsin left, and then the Harding rose ten feet at the depot. After this rain the plain became very boggy. Plenty of natives had been seen, but they were generally quiet. The native Dugald had occasion to shoot at one of a party by whom he was surrounded, and we believe wounded him with shot, but this is the only collision we have heard of. There was enough flour at the De Grey to last with care until the middle of October, so that they will be able to hold out until the arrival of the Mystery, which will, we suppose, be dispatched immediately with fresh supplies, and to reship the stores now at the depot on the Harding. We hear that the party at the Harding under M'Court had found the letter deposited by Mr. Nairn before his departure for the De Grey. Until the discovery of this letter they did not know what had become of the advanced party. Mr. Wellard has returned to Fremantle, and expresses himself pleased with the country, which he had explored in several directions. His party will be stationed, we believe, on the Sherlock.

BRAY'S TRACTION-ENGINE—THE NEW JACK OF ALL WORK.

(From the London Review, August 22.)

There is a limit to the physical powers of man, but, apparently, there is none to the conceptions of his mind and the works of his hand. Indeed, we see day by day that he is surrounding himself with more Titanic creations; and it has often struck us that the time will come when he will be beaten by the mighty engines he constructs. If the reader has ever seen the department of the Arsenal at Woolwich in which the boilers for the steamships of war are stored, he will be able to appreciate the difficulty we mention. As the might of our iron navy increases, the size of the motive power increases also, until at length we find ourselves surrounded by the appliances of giants rather than of men. These steam-boilers, for instance, are, on an average, as large as a good-sized cottage, and their weight is proportionately enormous, yet such structures have to be moved about from place to place, lifted in and lifted out of ships, and conveyed for miles as though they were simply bricks passed from hand to hand. If we look again at the limbs of the mighty engines these boilers are required to move, we are equally struck at the pigmy force of man in comparison. The main shaft of the Achilles iron-clad we saw in the International Building, the gigantic girder for railway bridges we sometimes see straining the hearts out of a whole squadron of horses as they creak slowly along upon their ponderous wains,—all these are evidences of the Frankensteins we are building up and the motions of which we seem so impotent to control. It may be said, we have the steam-engine to supplement our efforts; but that is not sufficient; we want a giant that will follow us about like a dog—a tireless agent than can go where man can and can work where he works. Have we not horse-power to any extent? says the reader. Yes; but our requirements have outgrown the power of draught animals, at least in the narrow streets and roads of cities and towns. If the reader only considers for a moment the sharp turns that must occur in transferring heavy pieces of machinery from one part of town to another, he will see that a long string of horses sometimes work at a fearful disadvantage; indeed, when a street has to be turned at right angles, it must be clear that at times the whole weight of the draught is thrown upon the two shaft horses. Such a limited power of transport puts us in the position of Robinson Crusoe with his unwieldy canoe, which he had not power to get to the water. It is very observable, however, that a great want in this country does not go long unsupplied, and two or three years ago Bray's traction engine entered into the field of labour, and is now so far perfected that it has got rid of the old difficulty about transport for ever. Last year it did most of the heavy carriage of machinery to the Exhibition, and the public are pretty familiar with the appearance of the powerful steam-tug that moved so noiselessly along our streets and carried, apparently without effort, loads of between thirty and forty tons. But it is in the dockyard at Woolwich, where it has been at work since the beginning of the year, that the full capabilities of this locomotive power have been brought out. It is, in fact, the Jack-of-all-work of the yard, and, like the elephant's trunk, nothing is too light or too heavy, too delicate or too ponderous, for its powers.

Perhaps the oddest among the many very odd creatures found in Australia is the animal called the ornithorhynchus, which appears to be a mixture of the duck, the beaver, and the mole; and the traction engine, constructed according to the order of the dockyard authorities, and now at work there, is about as strange a medley of half-a-dozen machines having apparently totally diverse functions. Independently of its traction power—its main employment—it is fitted up as a steam derrick, as a fixed engine to turn the shafting in the workshops, and as a capstan to haul the ships about the docks; and finally, it is now used as a very powerful steam fire-engine, capable of throwing a jet to the top of the highest ship-building sheds; in short, it can do anything, the dockyard labourers declare, short of talking, and that it can do, after its own fashion, with its steam whistle. When we saw it at work it was removing a huge marine boiler from among the scores of similar monsters stored in the depot. It seemed a marvel how such a bulk of iron could be started at all; but by the use of tackles and blocks it was first hauled clear of others, and then, having been lifted by jacks on to the travelling truck, the engine moved off with its load—like an ant removing a grain of corn ten times as big and heavy as itself—along the narrow tracks, in and out the timber and other impediments in its way; round the various docks, without noise or friction, the great load progressed until it finally reached its destination. The weight of the boiler was about eight-and-twenty tons, which, together with that of the truck and engine, made a total of forty-three tons; nevertheless it went smoothly over the yard, and, in consequence of its broad wheels, made even less mark upon the paving than would a score of straining horses with their hoofs flashing fire. As an instance of the odd jobs it is put to do, we may mention that a particular balk of oaken timber being wanted from the middle of a stack, an immense number of labourers were told off to haul it out. After many efforts, however, they gave it up, when the engine, happening to pass on other work, the driver volunteered to get it out—a work done almost as speedily as the pulling out of a double-tooth, an operation it somewhat resembled, inasmuch as the balk of timber was very irregular in form, and must have required an awful tug to extract it from the stack. When any steamer requires any repairs to her screw, this handy jack of the yard goes down to the edge of the dock, hitches up its derrick apparatus, and in a few minutes the huge blades of the screw are lifted on to the quay wall. This kind of work is varied sometimes by unloading timber from the ship's side, and taking it to the stack; or with her capstan-head she lifts the heavy chain cables from the holds of the men-of-war; and when the other labourers have done their work, and the huge stationary engine of the yard is at rest for the day, the traction-engine comes up, plants herself firmly in the shop where motive power is required for over-work, the band is slipped over her driving-drum, and immediately the whole machinery of a department is at work. She is constantly thus employed in the armour-plate shed, and in consequence of the small expense at which she is worked, compared with the large stationary engine, an immense saving accrues to the public service.

Perhaps the most curious and interesting feature of the traction-engine is the arrangement by which she is enabled to climb hills which horses with heavy loads could not attempt, and not only to climb, but to descend with equal facility. In order to accomplish this, the driving wheels are fitted with a mechanical arrangement which acts like a cat's-claw, in seizing or taking firm hold of the ground. These talons are projected through the rim of the wheel, and are withdrawn with a feathering action like that of a paddle-wheel at the moment they act as an obstruction; they stimulate, in fact, the sheathing action of the cat's claw, clearing themselves, at every rotation of the wheel, of the clogging soil. The engine is capable of ascending gradients as steep as one in six, and she has several times been seen, to the astonishment of the townspeople, conveying a 68-pounder gun, weighing 112 cwt., down the Plumstead-road, over the steep acclivity of Burrage Hill, and returning by the descent of Sandy Hill to the Arsenal—a feat which, it is needless to say, horses could not have accomplished. On Woolwich Common, moreover, she manœuvres with three of those ponderous 68-pounders with an astonishing facility. The wheels of the traction-engine are so broad that they do no damage to the ordinary road, and they run without sinking in marshy land and on loose ground where ordinary waggons would sink beyond reclaim. The ordinary pace of the engine, when carrying a load over broken ground, is about three miles an hour, but she will run at the rate of ten miles an hour; and it has been proved that she has been capable of drawing over a good road as great a weight as a hundred tons. This speed and power of traction, and the low cost at which she works, the expense for the coke not being more than two-and-sixpence per day, point to the great adaptability of the traction-engine for lines of metropolitan tramway, or to lines running between towns incapable of supporting a railway with its expensive rolling stock. The engine moves so noiselessly that if one were constructed specially to run in our streets, no horses would be frightened by it, and it may be easily arranged to avoid the escape of steam altogether. However, the extraordinary handiness and compactness of this new power, the ability to turn her power to any kind of work, the ease with which she is guided by the aid of the steerage wheel, will, without any measure of doubt, render her the indispensable companion of man wherever great works are in progress, or mighty engines have to be lifted and conveyed from place to place in the ordinary course of the day's work. To the arsenal and dockyard the engine now at work there is invaluable, and the cost has been so much less than horse-power that two teams have already been dispensed with. In the old days of horse-traction it was a common thing to see skilled hands, earning five shillings a-day, employed at mere labourers' work in certain emergencies, for want of a full supply of traction power; now all this is saved by the ever ready power of this manageable monster, which promises to become the common drudge of man in every field of exertion where gigantic powers have to be called into action.

A RURAL TRAGEDY IN FRANCE.

(From the Spectator, August 15.)

Travellers by rail to Tours and the south-western provinces of France will have noticed, in passing through the department of Loir-et-Cher, a singular looking country. It is a flat table-land, covered to a great extent with pools and marshes, and in some parts with little rocky elevations, resembling good-sized mole-hills more than anything else. The little rocks, indeed, are hollow; but instead of moles they contain human beings, who, in default of better quarters, have taken up their habitations therein. An entire village, called Roche-Cordon, is made up of such holes in the ground, the orifices consisting sometimes of rough planks, sometimes of stone, and sometimes of simple mud. In the midst of all these dwellings of wretchedness and desolation there arise splendid mansions and palaces, surrounded by parks and flower-gardens, and adorned with all the luxury and taste of modern elegance. Not many miles from Roche-Cordon stands the Chateau of Chambord, the Versailles of Touraine, which some time ago was purchased by the ancient aristocracy of France, and presented as a birthday gift to "Henry the Fifth." The law which prevents the elder and younger Bourbons from holding property in the empire was set at nought on this occasion, for the public tribunals confirmed the conveyance of the estate to the Count de Chambord. High on the central tower of the château there glistens now, as of old, the *fleur-de-lis* of the Bourbons—a massive lily, hewn in stone, some six feet high. The four hundred and fifty chambers which the mansion contains are kept in admirable order, prepared at any moment to receive the descendant of a hundred kings. Not very distant from the human mole-hills is another magnificent domain, the Château of Valençay. Here lived, died, and was buried the greatest of modern French diplomatists, Charles Maurice, Prince de Talleyrand, *le beau-frère du diable*, according to a most distinguished theologian and writer of sermons. There are many more historical and far-famed residences in sight of the mud-holes of Roche-Cordon. There is Plessis-le-Tours, the castellated den of Louis XI., made famous to English readers by "Quentin Durward;" and there is, not far off, La Rabaterie, the whilom residence of Olivier-le-Daim, barber, valet, and prime minister to

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—OCTOBER 29.

La Hogue, ship, 1460 tons, Captain Williams, from Plymouth 1st August. Passengers—Mr. and Mrs. W. Wallis son and servant, Mr. and Mrs J. Pemell, Miss A. Pemell, Messrs J. and P. Pemell, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Wallis jun, Mr. H. Wallis, Mr. J. Gibbs, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Weal, Mr. Silks, Rev. A. M'Intyre (Scotch Church), Mr. and Mrs G. Fairfax 3 children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and child, Miss Hartigan, Mrs. M'Vitie, Mr. and Mrs. Nixon, Miss Nixon, Mrs. M. Walton, Rev. J. Hibbert (Baptist minister), Miss K. Weeks, Miss Beauzeville, Miss Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Mills and child, Mrs. Mason, Messrs. E. Fairfax, W. Watt, M'Connell, W. Walker, A. Cassells, Sinclair, Carter, D. B. Brown, Masters J. and R. Pennington, S. Owen, W. Weeks, T. Johnson, Ward, and Mason, and 14 in the intermediate. Gilchrist, Watt, and Co., agents.

Payaway, brig, 197 tons, Captain Croft, from Melbourne 25th instant. Captain, agent.

Alfred, ship, 1200 tons, Captain Descarteret, from Melbourne 20th instant. Passengers—Mrs. Cockle and family, Messrs. Staples, Holwaily, Magney, Poulson, and 5 in the steerage. J. B. Metcalfe, agent.

DEPARTURES.—OCTOBER 29.

Yarra Yarra (s.), for Brisbane.
Western Star, for Adelaide.
Shawmut, for Hongkong.
Harriet Armitage, for Newcastle.

PROJECTED DEPARTURES.—OCTOBER 29.

Maria, for Launceston, via Newcastle; Sarah Francis, for Brisbane; Emma Colvin, for New Caledonia.

CLEARANCES.—OCTOBER 29.

Yarra Yarra (s.), Festing C. Knight, master, for Brisbane and Wide Bay. Passengers—Mr. R. Rutter, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgibbon, Master G. Fitzgibbon, Master R. Fitzgibbon, Miss Fitzgibbon and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. James P. Croft, Mr. Kennelly, Mr. Patrick, Mrs. Ashton, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Stanley, Miss Stanley, Miss H. Stanley, Miss A. Stanley, Mr. and Mrs. Deighton and five children, and 16 in the steerage.

Emma Colvin, ship, 560 tons, Captain King, for New Caledonia. Passengers—Miss Aibert, Miss M'Evoy, Messrs. Kearney, Joubert, Williams, Pensdell, and 2 in the steerage.

Sarah Francis, ketch, 15 tons, Sullivan, for Brisbane, in ballast. Passengers—Messrs. M'Kie, J. Williams.

Maria, brig, 156 tons, Captain Williamson, for Launceston, via Newcastle.

COASTERS INWARDS.—OCTOBER 29.

Nancy, Secret, Fromes, Albion, from Newcastle, with 512 tons coal; Wonlora, from Bulli, with 330 tons coal; Commerce, from Richmond River, with 42,000 feet cedar; Orient, from Moruya, with 9 tons bark, 108 hides; William and Ann, from Shell Harbour, with 100 bags maize, 84 kegs butter, 5 cases eggs, 4 coops fowls, 17 bags bran; Maid of the Lake, from Lake Macquarie, with 35,000 shingles, 2 tons fish; Morpeth (s.), from Morpeth, with 239 bales hay, 12 bundles calfskins, 8 kegs 2 cases tobacco, 15 pigs, 7 calves, 4 coops poultry, 5 cases eggs, 107 bags maize, 27 bales wool, 63 bags potatoes, 316 hides, 2 bales sheepskins, 6 hogsheads wine, 1 package bacon, 250 sheep.

COASTERS OUTWARDS.—OCTOBER 29.

Orient, for Moruya; Wonlora, (s.), for Bulli; William and Ann, for Shell Harbour; Nancy, for Newcastle.

IMPORTS.—OCTOBER 29.

Payaway, from Melbourne: 1 8 tons iron, S. A. Joseph; 200 cases oil, Vennard and Stevens; 200 cases lobsters, Gilfillan and Co.; 400 cases oil, 27 cases, Stanford and Co.; 40 pairs wheels, 80 pedestals, 1 package, D. Williams; 2 ventilators, 1 bell, 1 package, Order.

La Hogue, from London; 5 packages, M'Mahon; 4 packages, T. Leopold; 194 packages, Belloy and Scott; 70 barrels nuts, 40 cases provisions, Learmonth, Dickinson, and Co.; 8 packages, Gilchrist, Watt, and Co.; 10 packages, T. W. Eady; 873 packages, E. Vickery; 6 packages, Bank of Australasia; 16 packages, L. Sharwood and Co.; 350 packages, R. Graham; 3 packages, S. Lyons; 5 packages, Cox and Co.; 10 packages, Scott, Henderson, and Co; 15 packages, L. and S. Hordern; 1 package, Rev. R. Chapman; 1 package, E. M. Webster; 2 packages, Wade and Son; 2 packages, T. Farr, 10 packages, Lotze and Larmann; 3 packages, Duguid and Co.; 1 package, Smith; 1 package, Thacker, Daniell, and Co.; 1 package, F. Kott; 466 packages, E. and W. Paul; 350 packages, S. A. Joseph; 9 packages, T. P. Colegate; 33 packages, J. Lee; 1 package, Sir W. Montague; 14 packages, T. Brooks; 76 packages, Saddington and Sons; 3 packages, R. Bailey; 4 packages, P. Talbot; 5 packages, J. Keep; 123 packages, Lamb, Parbury, and Co; 100 hogsheads, W. Long; 498 packages, Colonial Sugar Company; 1 package, E. Knox; 1 package, J. Molison; 3 packages, S. Rabone; 1 package, T. Harpham; 1 package, Dr. Douglas; 1 package, C. Rolleston; 1 package, A. Ham; 1 package, G. C. Cook; 1 package, Young, Lark, and Bennett; 3 packages, M. C. Bohrman; 18 rams, 1 package, J. O. M'Lean; 4 packages, J. H. Williams; 1 package, Allen, Street, and Norton; 1 package, W. Perkins; 1 bin malt, 146 packages, R. and F. Tooth; 1 package, Holmes and Waiting; 158 packages, F. and O. Company; 144 packages, L. and S. Speyer and Co.; 8 packages, Ardern and Co.; 29 packages, M'Arthur and Co.; 1 package, Mrs. Kelman; 12 sheep; 8 packages, H. Cotton; 9 packages, J. Hill, jun.; 352 packages, J. B. Holdsworth; 1 package, Mrs. Coventry; 1 package, R. T. Hall; 2 packages, W. R. Piddington; 16 packages, J. Johnson; 38 packages, Dangar and Co.; 6 packages, Constable and Co.; 11 packages, Dawson, Eagar, and Co.; 4 packages, Farmer and Co.; 3 bulls, 10 packages, Cooper and Co.; 380 packages, P. N. Russell and Co.; 74 packages, Morey and Price; 604 packages, Keep and Parsons; 59 packages, W. Wallis; 129 packages, C. Newton, Brother, and Co.; 5 packages, Cohen and Co.; 39 packages, Kohn and Co.; 81 packages, W. S. Friend and Son; 115 packages, E. P. Capper; 901 packages, Rabone, Feez, and Co.; 2 packages, Gilfillan, and Co.; 20 packages, Hill and Co.; 108 packages, Ashdown and Co.; 9 packages, J. T. Armitage and Co.; 807 packages, D. Cohen and Co.; 658 packages, J. Williams; 4 packages silks, 1143 packages, Order.

Alfred, from London, via Melbourne: 100 tons paving stones, J. B. Metcalfe.

EXPORTS.—OCTOBER 29.

Maria, for Launceston, via Newcastle: 25 cases rum, 2 barrels 12 hogsheads 68 cases brandy, 100 cases genevа, 10 bags wool-packs, 6 bales canvas, Gilchrist, Watt, and Co.; 20 C. Brooks, 100 bags sugar, Thacker, Daniell, and Co; 1 bag coffee, R. Cape.

City of Melbourne (s.), for Melbourne: 38 cases fruit, J. Pope; 16 cases fruit, A. Watts; 5 cases wine, Brown and Co.; 39 cases, Thacker, Daniell, and Co.; 2 casks sherry, Colonial Stockkeeper; 1 case, Bank of Australasia; 189 cases fruit, 291 bags maize, Hardy; 6 packages, W. W. Buckland; 8 casks fish, Ah Teak; 1 case, C. and J. Byrnes; 1 case, Myers and Solomon; 63 cases fruit, H. Griffiths and Co.; 10 bales woolpacks, R. Graham; 300 bags maize, Anderson, Campbell, and Co.; 1 box, J. and S. Samuel; 6 packages, Devenor; 2 boxes (£10,000), Oriental Bank; 35 bags maize, 1 box, A. S. N. Company; 165 cases fruit, 9 bags oysters, F. James; 4 packages, Police Department; 35 cases fruit, W. H. M'Keown; 1 case, Cook and Co.; 123 cases fruit, T. Lawless; 16 bags oysters, Emerson; 146 bags maize, J. Walker.

Emma Colvin, for New Caledonia: 202 head cattle, 67 tons coal, D. N. Joubert.

SHIPS' MAILS.

MAILS will close at the General Post Office as follows:—

FOR NEW CALEDONIA.—By the Emma Colvin, this day, at noon, if not underway.

FOR AUCKLAND.—By the Charlotte Andrews, this day, at noon, if not underway.

FOR FRIENDLY ISLANDS.—By the Dragon, this day, at 6 p.m.

FOR ROCKHAMPTON.—By the Star of Australia (s.), on Saturday, at 1 p.m.

FOR NELSON.—By the Frowning Beauty, on Saturday, at 6 p.m.

FOR LONDON.—By the William Duthie, on Saturday, at 6 p.m.

CUSTOM HOUSE.—Entered Outwards: October 28, Mary Agnes, barque, 282 tons, Captain Darby, for Melbourne; Margaret and Eliza, barque, 505 tons, Captain Smith, for Auckland via Newcastle; Margaret and Mary, schooner, 126 tons, Captain Pratt, for Brisbane.

In the export manifest per Deva, for Auckland, the following goods reported as shipped by Gilfillan and Co. should be A. S. Webster:—200 bags rice, 4068 bags oats, 40 boxes soap.

THE VIXEN.—Fears are entertained respecting the safety of this schooner. She left Sydney on the 8th instant, bound for Brisbane, with a general cargo, in addition to which a large boiler, weighing six tons, and some seven feet in height, was placed on deck, as was the case on board the Pluto (s.). She is reported to have put into Broken Bay the same day, and to have sailed again on the 9th; since which time no intelligence has been received respecting her.

The Dimantina (s.) left the Manning bar at 11 15 a.m. on Wednesday, and arrived at Sydney at 9·30 a.m. 29th; she experienced light west and north-west winds, with fine weather throughout the passage; passed the New Moon four miles north Seal Rocks. The Dimantina brings as passengers Mr. Doust, Rev Dr. Dugdale, Mrs. Albury, Miss Albury, Miss Becke, Miss Brown, and 8 in the steerage. Cargo: 1400 bags maize, 38 cases eggs, 3 coops fowls, 84 hides, 21 pigs, 12 packages bacon, 1 cask tallow.

THE RAPID.—This beautiful clipper barque has been lately purchased by Messrs. Andrews and Merriman, expressly for the intercolonial trade. She has been named the Fanny Merriman, and will be commanded by Captain Vanderverd, late of the brig Wild Wave—a gentleman well known in the New Zealand trade. The Rapid is a very superior vessel, and will prove a valuable addition to the fine ships already owned by the abovenamed firm.

LA HOGUE.—This favourite ship, still under the command of Captain Williams, has again arrived safely in port, after a fair passage of eighty-nine days, and, as usual, bringing a full complement of passengers, among whom we have to welcome several old colonists. La Hogue left Plymouth at 9 a.m. on the 1st August, sighted Madeira on the 17th August, crossed the Equator on the 4th September, and was off Tristan d'Acunha on the 21st. The meridian of Greenwich was passed on 24th, and the Cape on the 27th, in latitude 44° S, fifty-seven days out. Up to this date the weather had been very light and variable. On the 26th instant, communicated by signal with Cape Otway, and at midnight of the 27th passed Gabo Island light, and finally entered Sydney Heads at 4.30 p.m. on the 29th instant. On the 17th August, at noon, when off Madeira, Thomas Ecclesball, one of the ruddy servants, who had for several days previous exhibited signs of insanity, jumped overboard. The ship was going eleven knots, with all studding-sails set, but a boat was promptly lowered, and the vessel brought to the wind; but, after an absence of two hours, the boat returned unsuccessful. The unfortunate man was seen to seize hold of the life-buoy, but could not be seen from the boat.

NEWCASTLE.

ARRIVALS.

October 28.—Maria J. Smith, American barque, 496 tons, J. Smith, from Sydney.
October 28.—Triton, schooner, 150 tons, Patten, from Melbourne.
October 28.—Monarch, barque, 269 tons, Jamison, from Melbourne.

DEPARTURES.

October 28.—New Moon (s.), for Maclear.
October 28.—Alexander, brig, Vissen, for Melbourne, with 400 tons coal.
October 28.—Gratia, brig, Jacobs, for Hobart Town, with 220 tons coal, 348 bushels maize, 50 cases oranges, 1 horse, and 1 case wearing apparel.

COASTERS INWARDS.

October 28.—Elfin.
October 29.—Little Pet, from Sydney.

LEMON AND OTHERS v. THOMPSON.—This was an action on a charter party for freight, and the defence in substance was that the captain did not take out some passengers whom it was intended to send out, and that thereby the whole object of the charter was frustrated. The charter was of a vessel of 854 tons burden, lying in the East India Docks, for a voyage from London to Sydney, Robson's Bay, or any port of Adelaide, with the owner's sanction, it being expressly stipulated that the vessel was not to be put under the Passengers' Act, but the freighters to have the option of sending any passengers the vessel could conveniently take, any expense of fitting out the ship, or addition to, or alteration of her present accommodation for passengers, to be borne by the freighter. The freight was to be a "lump" sum of £2200, of which not less than one-third was to be paid in eighty days from the date of the ship's clearance outwards, and the remainder to be secured by bills, making the freight payable in the colony. The ship was put up as a "general" ship—*i.e.*, a general cargo, and cleared outwards on the 2nd of April, 1863, and afterwards, when it was said the ship was at Gravesend, the captain refused to receive some missionaries and some sheep, for their support, sent at that time in connection with the Colonial Church Missionary Society. In fact, the case for the defence was that the captain refused to take passengers. The ship, however, had sailed on her voyage. The present action was for the third of the freight, and the defence pleaded was that the captain wrongfully refused to receive passengers, and that thereby the object of the voyage was wholly frustrated. Certain allowances were made by the plaintiffs, and their claim was £795. The defendant had after action paid into court £100, and the net claim now was £675. Mr. Lush, Q.C., and Sir G. Honyman were for the plaintiffs; Mr. Bovill, Q.C., and Mr. J. P. Murphy were for the defendant. On the case being opened, Mr. Lush said the defence, even if true in fact, was no defence in law; as had very lately been held in a court of error, in a case of "Segar v. Duthie;" it was only a ground for cross action. Mr. Bovill submitted that it was at all events a ground for reduction of damages, but the learned Judge said he thought not. It was very difficult to say what was the meaning of the defence that the object of the voyage was "wholly frustrated," because it was so uncertain what was the "object." Mr. Bovill said the charter itself showed that the object was to send out passengers, since it was expressly stipulated in the charter. It was elicited from the first witness that the captain at Gravesend refused to receive passengers. The sheep, he said, had not been heard of, and it appeared that the defendant had not, when the passengers were rejected, given formal notice that he claimed the full performance of the charter. The custom-house officer produced the "manifest" to prove that the ship took a full cargo. Mr. Bovill urged as a defence that the captain had refused to carry the passengers and the sheep, but the learned Baron said he should ask the jury whether, even if so, the defence, in any possible sense of the words "wholly frustrated," could be said to be sustained. The jury nodded their heads in a very emphatic way, intimating what their answer would be. Mr. Bovill thereupon consulted his client, and then asked the learned Judge to express his opinion on the point as one of law. The learned Judge, however, said it was a question of fact for the jury. The jury said they should find for the plaintiff upon the question. The learned Judge said, that being so, even if the refusal were proved, he should hold it to be no defence, as the jury were of opinion that the object of the voyage was not wholly frustrated, and so, even supposing the refusal proved, he should, on that finding, direct a verdict for the plaintiffs. Mr. Bovill upon that gave up the defence, and the verdict was entered for the plaintiffs for £675.—*Times*, August 14.

CUSTOMS IMPORT ENTRIES.—OCTOBER 29.

135 tons iron, S. A. Joseph
5 cases oilstores, Smith, Peate, and Co.
200 cases oil, Vennard and Stevens
400 cases oil, 27 cases machines, Stanford and Co.
20 hogsheads whisky, J. Gedye
200 cases lobsters, Gilfillan and Co.
1 bundle rigging, W. S. Lockhart
60 boxes pipes, D. Cohen and Co.
56 tanks, 234 bags chaff, 323 bales hay, Mollison and Black
7 bales paper, F. M'Nab and Co.
66,193 feet timber, M. Bayley
48 cases whisky, Dangar, Gilchrist, and Co.
142 tuns oil, 5500 lbs. cotton, 4000 cocoanuts, 1 bale wool, M'Donald, Smith, and Co.
4 casks salt, Captain Cobham
12 casks whisky, 30 hogsheads rum, Wolfen, Brothers
3 bales wool, 3 hogsheads tallow, 1 bale skins, A. S. N. Co.

DUTY PAID.

100 tons sugar, E. M. Sayers.

ADVERTISEMENT.

To Captain John Williams, Commander of La Hogue.

Dear Sir,—We, the undersigned passengers in La Hogue, request that you will accept our sincere acknowledgments for the able and successful manner in which you have conducted us safely to the close of a long and to you a somewhat trying voyage, and for your kind attention to the comfort of all under your charge.

We also request that you will communicate to Mr. Goddard, Dr. Wetherall, and the other officers of La Hogue, our sincere thanks for the zeal and ability with which, in their several spheres, they have seconded your exertions. But we have still more pleasing duty to discharge—that of wishing to yourself success and happiness in the new career on which you are about to enter; and to your friend and intended successor in your present position, a course as honourable and successful as your own.

We are, dear Sir, yours sincerely,

W. Wallis	James Johnson
T. Wallis	Rebecca Johnson
G. Jilks	Duncan Sinclair
James Pemell	Charles James Fairfax
Jane Pemell	Anne Fairfax
James E. Pemell	E. R. Fairfax
Amelia J. Pemell	A. Macintyre
Peter J. Pemell	J. H. Wallis
David Brown	W. M. Wallis
William H. Walker	Samuel Owen
John Nixon	George T. Weale
J. Nixon	Alexander Cassels
E. Nixon	Isabel Weale
Susan Hartigan	Thomas Johnston
Ann M'Vitie	F. Hibburd
Kate Weeks	Elvira F. Henruelle
John Shapter Gibbs	Frances Wallis

CREW.

Dear Sir,—We, the undersigned passengers in your good ship La Hogue, beg that you, Captain Williams, will accept our heartfelt thanks for all the care and kindness that you have displayed towards us during this long but pleasant voyage. We further wish you every success in the new career on which we understand you are about to enter, and that you may be long spared to enjoy, not only prosperity in the future as you have done in the past, but also happiness in your own family, of which you have from professional duties been so often deprived.

We also beg that you will convey our sincere thanks to the officers and Dr. Wetherall, for their kind, and courteous attention, and our best wishes to Mr. Goddard, who we have heard is to be your successor.

(Signed) John Mills	William Trezise
D. Ward	Sarah Trezise
L. S. Mason	W. Taylor
Helen Ward	E. P. Legge
Margaret Walton	M. A. Hodge
Margaret Mills	William Hodge, jun.
Emily Mills	John Hodge
Peter Dixon	Frederick Hodge
Dixon Little	Lucy S. Hodge
Joseph Watson	Dr. Hormvannischunda
William Hodge, sen.	E. M. Keats
John Dixon	T. Torrington Pencombe.
Martin M'Lean	

[BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.]

MELBOURNE.

ARRIVALS.

October 27.—Theresa, from Southampton.
October 28.—Atrevida, from Ilo Ilo.

DEPARTURES.

October 27.—Tasmania (s.), for Hobart Town; Active, for Launceston; Elizabeth, for Sydney; Devonshire, for Callao.

BRISBANE.

DEPARTURES.

October 28.—Clarence (s.), for Sydney; Pearl, for Henry's Bay.

WINDS AND WEATHER.

OCTOBER 29, 9 A.M.

Tenterfield ...	S.W.	Fine.
Armidale ...	S.W.	Fine.
Tamworth ...	N.	Fine
Grafton ...	S.W.	Fine.
Murrurundi ...	N.W.	Fine.
Newcastle ...	N.W.	Fine and clear. Bar. 29·622. Ther. 62°
Mudgee ...	W.	Fine.
Bathurst ...	W.	Fine.
Forbes ...	N.	Fine.
Young ...	W.	Very fine and warm.
Goulburn ...	S.W., light.	Fine. Bar. 27·550. Ther. 54°
Braidwood ...	N.W.	Cloudy.
Yass ...	N.W.	Fine.
Gundagai ...	W.	Fine.
Wagga Wagga	Calm.	Fine and clear.
Deniliquin ...	N.	Fine and warm. Bar. 29·312. Ther. 60°
Kiandra ...	N.W.	Cold, snowing.
Albury ...	N.N.W.	Fine, cloudy, heavy showers in night. Bar. 29·123. Ther. 66.
Queenscliff ...	N.W., moderate.	Cloudy. Bar. 29·575. Ther. 62°
Cape Schank...	N.W., fresh.	Cloudy. Bar. 29·30. Ther. 55°
Cape Otway ...	N.N.W., moderate.	Fine. Ther. 59·245. Ther. 54°
Portland Bay...	W., moderate.	Very fine. Bar. 29·35. Ther. 56°
South Head ...	W.	Fine and clear.
Sydney ...	N.N.W.	Fine and clear. Bar. 29·667. Ther. 63·7.
Wollongong ...	E.	Fine.
Kiama ...	E.	Very fine.

SYDNEY HEADS.

	TIME.	WINDS.	REMARKS.
October 29.	8·30 a.m.	N.W.	Moderate, and clear.
	Noon	N.N.W.	Moderate, and clear.
	5 p.m.	North.	Light, and clear.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M., OCTOBER 29TH, 1863.

Stations.	Barometer.	Thermometer.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max. shade.	Min. shade.	Rain gauge.	Direction of wind.	Force of wind.	Extent of cloud
Newcastle .	29·622	62°	66·5	66°	72°	49·5	...	N.W.	2	—
Bathurst ...	27·652	56°	58°	50°	62°	30	...	W.	2	2
Goulburn..	27·550	54°	56°	48°	57°	39°	...	S.W.	2	—
Albury.....	29·123	60°	62°	50	66°	44°	0·16	N.N.W.	2	7
Deniliquin.	29·312	60°	63°	61°	68°	28°	...	N.	1	6

STATE OF THE WEATHER.

October 29.—Newcastle, fine, and clear; Bathurst, fine; Goulburn, fine; Albury, fine, cloudy, heavy showers in night; Deniliquin, fine, warm.

MUNICIPALITY OF NEWTOWN.—A meeting of the council was held on Monday, the 19th instant, at their chambers. Present—the chairman (Mr. H. W. Holland), and councillors Knight, Bailey, Cullen, Bedford, Conley, Kingsbury, Curtis, and Munro. Minutes of proceedings of previous meeting read and confirmed. Correspondence: A letter from Mr. Reeden, complaining of an open well on the Kingston, the property of Mr. Kingsbury. Councillor Kingsbury stated that he was not aware that the well in question had been uncovered, but that he would have the matter rectified. Miscellaneous business: Mr. Davidson, Kingston ward, attended for the purpose of ascertaining if the council would assist in raising his fence, the same having been filled some two feet on the outer side. The council thought that it would form a precedent, and that it would not be advisable to interfere. Motions of which notice had been given: Moved by councillor Munro, seconded by councillor Kingsbury, and carried, "That Australia-street be metalled from the Newtown Road to the north side of Albemarle-street, and Albemarle-street be also metalled from Australia-street to its junction with Oxford-street." Moved by councillor Curtis, seconded by councillor Bedford, "That Erskineville-lane be formed from the Newtown Road to the railway bridge, and metalled at a cost not exceeding £20." Moved by councillor Bedford, seconded by councillor Curtis, and carried, "That the clerk be instructed to survey and make out an estimate of the probable cost of forming Wilson-street, from Erskineville-lane to its junction with Alder's fence." Moved by councillor Bedford, seconded by councillor Kingsbury, and carried, "That tenders be called for the formation of Nelson-street in O'Connell ward, and making a good rubble drain down the centre of same." Moved by councillor Bailey, seconded by councillor Conley, "That it is the opinion of this council that the duty of clerk and surveyor for this municipality should be divided into two distinct offices, and that the duties of this office shall be hereafter decided by this council." Amendment by councillor Munro, seconded by councillor Kingsbury, "That this council are of opinion that they would not be studying the best interests of the ratepayers in paying two persons to fill the office of clerk and surveyor, when one is sufficient to perform the duties of clerk, surveyor, and overseer of works;" upon the amendment being put there appeared three for and five against; the amendment was, therefore, declared lost; upon the original motion being put, there appeared five for and three against; the original motion was, therefore, declared carried. Orders of the day: The surveyor handed in a report in accordance with instructions, namely, the cost of forming Elizabeth-street, and constructing a culvert in same. Moved by councillor Conley, seconded by councillor Curtis, and carried, "That the surveyor's report recommending the expenditure of £20 for the formation of Eliza-street, and the construction of a culvert across same be adopted." Notice of motion handed in from councillors Conley, Kingsbury, Bailey, and Curtis, and the council rose.

DIARY.

MEMORANDA TO NEXT PUBLICATION.

October, 1863.		SUN. Rises.	Sets.	HIGH WATER. Morn.	After.
30	FRIDAY	5 22	6 38	10 46	11 10

MOON.—Last Quarter, 4th November, 1h 39m. a.m.

NOTICE.—Advertisements intended for publication in Monday's issue of this journal must be left at the office before 11 p.m. on SATURDAY. No advertisements will be received on Sunday.

JOHN FAIRFAX and SONS.
Sydney Morning Herald, April 7.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, and DEATHS.—In all cases these announcements must be properly authenticated and endorsed, or they cannot be inserted.

The Sydney Morning Herald.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1863.

THE full confirmation of the statements made from time to time in this journal respecting our finances, and the contradiction they have met so often, will show the colony how little reliance is to be placed on general denials, and how necessary it is that even the reports of Ministers should be confirmed by an effective and thorough scrutiny. It ought to be no offence to the most sensitive public man, that he is not taken at his word. The world has had too many examples of persons occupying the most lofty positions, and filling the most responsible offices, betraying their trust, to entitle any person to challenge absolute confidence. But even allowing there are some persons whose character and station disarm all suspicion of concurrence with wrong, there is no security that their judgment will always be sure, or that they will not only be deceived, but be made the instruments of deception. Where the daily current of affairs is too broad, and too deep to be fathomed and measured by one mind; when details must be accepted at second hand, any man may be misled, and a search which will assist him in discovering the truth, must not be regarded as a reflection either on his honesty or his intelligence, but the observance of a precaution which is enforced by the common sense of the world.

It is in recognition of this principle that auditors are appointed to ascertain from time to time the state of public financial institutions, and when the system of investigation is sufficient, and the auditors faithful, the parties interested are assured of the soundness of the transactions that involve their fortunes. If however, one or other of the conditions may be wanting, an audit by seeming to do what it does not, may be only a cover of fraud, and a new cause of delusion. The possibility of deceiving persons so directly interested as shareholders is illustrated in a thousand instances. We have seen false balances continued for years and years, until all means of borrowing capital have been exhausted, or some accident has disclosed the appalling truth. The great cases of the last few years must be fresh in the remembrance of all our readers. The disclosure in one case was made by a conversation, accidental, between the directors of two great institutions, one congratulating the other on the large balance in the chest. There is clearly no limit to such imposition, unless by some such casualty, or the impossibility of entrapping new dupes to entrust more money.

How little value the statement of accounts on official authority may be has been illustrated the last few days. We had on the authority of the Government servants, and accepted at first by the gentlemen appointed to report, the statement of a balance in the bank to the public credit of more than half a million. We are now told by the Treasurer in his speech that *at one period of the year the amount in the Treasury to the credit of the consolidated revenue did not exceed £9000.* Since this, about eighty thousand pounds have been received from the assessment of stock, but the small balance in our favour as against the Bank of New South Wales must soon fritter away. Instead of lending money to the bank we shall be borrowing from it; and so far from undertaking new works it will be necessary as matter of common prudence to postpone some which it was intended to begin. This is obvious from the facts as they are now confessed. The statement that half a million remained at the credit of the Government in the Bank of New South Wales led to inferences which were offensive to discounters, and which cast a deep shadow over our commercial prospects. It is now clear that the Government, instead of making money plentiful, has by its system of finance misled the public judgment. Had the facts been more known some of our financial mysteries would have had ready solution. If, however, the great facts of our financial history can put in so false a light, if it be possible to conceal the truth from the scrutiny of men proverbial for their financial sagacity, as the last disclosures prove, what may we not expect when the actual disposal of the public money shall be traced through its thousand channels. We do not for one moment mean to direct suspicion to any man, but it is a fact that some thousand persons are authorised to draw on the banks for the various forms of Government service, and that their cheques are paid without an examination or countersign. Does the experience of mankind justify such discretion? Is it possible that the public will not be pillaged by persons so indiscriminately and recklessly trusted? Is it not an invitation to fraud—a positive inducement to embezzlement? We know what comes of such trust in private life; we see everywhere painful examples of the wreck of character and the loss of liberty, as the effect of such temptations; and if, when the accounts are thoroughly sifted they all are found true and just, then we shall be forced to admit that the late Government selected its agents with prodigious good fortune, and that they will stand out from all possible examples of official or private honour, and in a certain way compensate for the political imposture of their masters.

The lesson would be lost if it led to no precautions—the disclosures made will shake our credit with other colonies, and with England—and justly. An unsatisfactory system of accounts stands with men of financial reputation as a sure step to insolvency and ruin. Governments are only establishments, and in matters of finance differ in nothing from mercantile firms; that is, they must observe the same methods to secure their safety. There is, however, this weighty difference, that in Governments the whole are fluctuating Cabinets, and salaried clerks. There are no principals—the whole are limited to their present interest, and are responsible for nothing. A Minister goes out, a clerk at most resigns—or is dismissed—while the public is the only party to suffer the loss and feel the full effects of monetary confusion.

Nothing would tend so greatly to re-establish our credit as a severe and instant enquiry. The present Ministry has no right to ask the absolute reliance of the community, still less of people beyond the seas. Their names may stand for something in New South Wales, but no report resting on the authority of a party, will conciliate the confidence of British capitalists. We must have a commission impartial chosen to do this.

WHATEVER the late Intercolonial Conference may have effected, it certainly failed to promote even in the slightest degree the chief object for which it was nominally convoked, which was the adoption of a common Tariff. The very opposite result seems to have followed. So far from there having been any approximation, there are greater diversities than ever, and there promise to be greater diversities still. The alterations that have been made in Adelaide since the Conference broke up, and those that have been proposed in this colony, are wide departures from the principles which were jointly assented to at Melbourne. These things would seem to indicate either that there are irreconcilable diversities in the requirements of the different colonies, or else that the attempt to reduce those diversities was premature. In three of the colonies that were parties to the agreement that was to have been binding, the Treasurers, the moment they were released from their obligation, abandoned with a jump the concerted policy and pursued independent lines of action.

The Conference condemned *ad valorem* duties, but in Adelaide they have been reimposed. In Tasmania, where they existed, they have been repealed, because the Ministry that came into power came in on that cry. Therefore, so far as any general recognition of what may be supposed to be sound principles of finance is concerned, nothing has been gained. One colony has abandoned and another has adopted the practice of *ad valorem* duties. One example has been balanced by another, and we are no nearer to common action than before.

It is singular, too, to notice the different tempers in which this particular form of tax is regarded in different colonies. In Tasmania their imposition caused such an outcry that it upset the Ministry. In South Australia they were reimposed with apparently general acquiescence.

There is only one objection to *ad valorem* duties, but that one objection is conclusive. They are equitable, and as unoppressive as any indirect tax can be; but they act as a temptation to dishonesty that experience shows is too much for ordinary commercial morality. It is left to the importer to fix the value, and though there is nominally a check on any exaggerated depreciation of value, in the fact that the Government has the right of purchase at the price stated; still in practice the check is inefficient, and the straightforward merchant pays a heavier tax than the cheat. If the rate of duty is low, of course there is less temptation to dishonesty; but people will cheat even for a margin of profit, and no tax worth collecting can be made so small that people will not try to evade it. Any law that tends to demoralise the population and to weaken the general standard of honesty is to be condemned. It may be said that all Customs' duties are so, inasmuch as they tend to promote smuggling. So to that extent they are, though as a matter of fact few persons are made smugglers compared with the number who successfully cheat under *ad valorem* duties. Direct taxation, too, leads to cheating, for the frauds in England to avoid the income tax have been many and ingenious. It is impossible to establish any system of taxation which will not prompt people to avoid it. All that can be done is to diminish the temptation as far as possible, by making evasion difficult, easily detected, and punishable. *Ad valorem* duties cannot be said satisfactorily to fulfil these conditions.

A package duty, which has been proposed as the next best substitute to an *ad valorem* duty, is much more free from the possibility of evasion, because the measurement will not be taken from the importer's statement, but will be made by the Customs' officer. As a tax, however, it must be admitted to be more clumsy and undiscriminating than an *ad valorem* duty,—though this is a light objection, compared with the more weighty one to which the other tax is exposed.

There is another objection, however, to a package duty, which is not without its force, and which must be taken into account, and that is, that it is a hindrance to that shipping trade in re-exports which forms a large part of the business of Sydney. Sydney is not merely a port for New South Wales; it is also an entrepot for Queensland, for New Zealand, and for the islands. But it has no monopoly of this business; and for the New Zealand trade especially Melbourne carries on a sharp and successful competition. It is not desirable where a rivalry of this kind exists to hamper ourselves with any extra weight, and therefore if a package duty should form a part of the new Treasurer's forthcoming Budget, it will be necessary to consider whether drawback cannot be allowed upon re-exports. Even the trouble and delay of recovering drawback is in itself a slight hindrance to the commerce of an entrepot; but all fresh taxation involves inconveniences of some kind or other, and we cannot extort additional revenue without making the shoe pinch somewhere. All that can be done is to diminish the pressure as far as possible, and to take care that it hinders as little as may be those trading operations out of which profits accrue. All taxes must be a deduction from the profits of those on whom the tax falls; but a tax is doubly oppressive if it not only reduces the profit when made, but hinders the making of that profit. It is on this ground that trading licenses have been justified, the principal objection to which tax is the difficulty of equitably graduating it, and of determining the definition of a trade.

Mr. M'CULLOCH, the well-known writer on Political Economy, in a treatise recently issued, strenuously maintains that taxation increases the wealth of a country, and he argues this on the ground that the tax is an extra compulsion to industry, and that people work harder and become more ingenious in making profits, and live more frugally than would be the case if they had not to meet the tax, and that so it comes to pass that the subduction of part of their profits ends in the long run in making them the richer for their loss. This doctrine may perhaps be readily acquiesced in by those who have fought the battle of life, and who, having earned their competency, can look back and think lightly of past troubles. But it is hardly so consoling to those before whom life is all up-hill work, and who do not feel at all cheered by anything that increases the toil and steepness of the ascent. We fear that, in spite of moralising about the blessedness of bearing the yoke, taxation will always be unpopular, and that the most silver-tongued Treasurer will never be able to make new imposts accepted with alacrity, by convincing those on whom he lays the burden that it will be good for them in the end.

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

ARMIDALE.

Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Two men, with their faces blackened, robbed a hut at Goetwyck on Saturday last; they were both armed. The police have been making diligent search, and sergeant trainger and senior-constable Reynolds fell in with them on Tuesday last, near Kentuck, when they freely exchanged shots, but the bushrangers escaped, the police capturing two horses.

[This is the same occurrence mentioned by our Bendemeer correspondent in yesterday's issue.]

BENDEMEER.

Thursday evening.

Reinforcements of police have arrived from Tamworth, and have proceeded in pursuit of the bushrangers, of whom it is credibly reported there are five in all. The townspeople animadvert strongly on the conduct of the police in allowing two men to escape at Kentuck after exchanging shots.

The gold-exploration party have returned with nine dwts., and have started out again, with the intention of going higher up the river.

The weather is very unsettled, and the river is still impassable. The police swam their horses over, and carried their things in the Government boat. A newly-erected foot-bridge was carried away by the late storm. A dray has been recovered, and half the side of a weatherboard house floated down the river, supposed to belong to a station.

MUDGEE.

Thursday, 6 p.m.

At the Quarter Sessions, Sam

DESPERATE ENCOUNTER WITH THE BUSHRANGERS.

(From the Bathurst Times of Wednesday.)

On Saturday evening, between six and seven o'clock, Gilbert, O'Meally, Ben Hall, Vane, and Burke made their appearance at the house of Mr. Keightley, assistant gold commissioner, at Dunn's Plains, Rockley. Mr. Keightley was at the door at the time, outside the house, and, seeing the men advancing, thought at first they were policemen in disguise. On their coming up they called out to him to "bail up," but, without paying any attention to the command, he ran into the house—about thirty yards off—with the intention of arming himself—four or five shots being fired at him as he went. It seems Mr. Keightley had been expecting a visit from the gang, and had provided himself with the necessary means of defence; but, owing to a most unfortunate circumstance, they were beyond his reach at the very moment he required to use them. Having occasion shortly before to send a letter to the post, he had dispatched it by a man servant, who bears the character of being a trustworthy and courageous fellow, and he, it appears, had taken a brace of revolvers with him for his own protection. Snatching up a double-barrelled gun (only one barrel of which was loaded), as also a revolver, Mr. Keightley, accompanied by a guest, Dr. Pechey, took his station at the door, where a shower of bullets greeted his appearance, some of them passing within a hair's breadth of their bodies, and burying with a "ping" in the woodwork about the threshold.

The plan pursued by the bushrangers was to keep under cover as much as possible, Burke from time to time creeping up at the side of the house, and suddenly swinging his arm round, managed in that way to fire at the gentlemen as they stood in the doorway. Vane is mentioned as coming out in full view, and deliberately taking aim. Unwilling to risk a shot at him, Mr. Keightley waited for the next approach of Burke, who came up shortly afterwards in the way described, and incautiously exposing his body, he was instantly shot in the abdomen, whereupon he was seen to reel like a drunken man, and stagger to the side of the house. Leaning with one hand against the wall, he cried out, "I'm done for, but I'll not be taken alive;" and then with the other hand he pulled out a revolver, and placing it to his head, endeavoured to blow out his brains. The first shot appears to have merely grazed the skin on his forehead, but the next blew away a portion of his skull. He then fell to the ground. The bushrangers, seeing what had happened, still continued to conceal themselves, while they kept up a constant fire upon the house. Dr. Pechey, at this juncture, made a rush across the yard towards a kitchen, in the endeavour to obtain possession of a gun placed there, belonging to the servant, William Baldock, whom we have mentioned as having been dispatched to Rockley. He was, however, encountered by Vane, who, presenting a revolver, ordered him back, at the same time firing at him. The doctor accordingly retraced his steps.

The two gentlemen unable, by reason of the tactics pursued, to get a shot at their assailants, now resolved to effect a change in their position, and with this object in view, they walked out of the door, and, by means of a ladder, deliberately mounted to a loft above the house, being exposed the whole time to an incessant fire; but although the bullets passed around them in a shower—some cutting through Mr. Keightley's beard and hat—miraculous to say, they reached their destination unhurt. The bushrangers still kept under cover, and fired about twenty shots at the loft, when Gilbert called out to them to come down, and Ben Hall said if they did not they would burn the house. Mr. Keightley, fearing that they would carry their threat into execution, and perhaps murder his wife and child, who were below, determined to give himself up, and accordingly called out his intention to surrender. On reaching the ground, Vane ran up to Dr. Pechey, and struck him with the butt end of his revolver a violent blow on the forehead, immediately above the left eyebrow which knocked him down. Mr. Keightley remonstrated, asking him why he treated him in that manner, when Vane made some answer, which showed that he mistook the doctor for Mr. Keightley, whom they believed to have been the instigator of the resistance they had experienced.

Just at this moment some persons in the employment of Mr. William Bowman, whose station is in close proximity, were observed standing on a rise of ground. [In justice to these, it must be mentioned that, through private means, we are possessed of information which exonerates them from the charge of standing coldly by while the murderous assault was going on. It seems Mr. Keightley has been in the habit of firing for practice, accordingly the reports of the firearms created no surprise, and it was not until the voice of Ben Hall was heard, threatening to burn the house down, that their attention was aroused, and they came up the hill to see what was going on.] Ben Hall at once fetched them down in a body to where the others were standing; and such a scene was presented as we trust it will never be our fate to chronicle again. In one corner of the yard lay the boy highwayman, while on portion of the well frame sat Mr Keightley, under sentence of death,—Vane standing close to him loading the gun with which Burke had been shot. Mrs. Keightley turned to the others and implored them to spare her husband's life, but seemingly without avail. Vane said doggedly that Burke and he had been brought up as boys together, that they had been mates ever since, and that the gun that had deprived him of life would in turn take the life of the man who killed him. The gun being loaded, he threw it over his arm, and turning to Mr. Keightley told him to follow him down the paddock. In frantic agitation, Mrs. Keightley ran up to Ben Hall, and clutching him by the coat collar, said "I know you are Ben Hall, and they say you are the most humane, respectable, and best of them all; for God's sake do not let them murder my husband—save his life!" She then turned to Gilbert, and addressing him in similar terms, begged him to interfere (O'Meally, it appears, was away looking after the horses); Gilbert and Hall appeared to be moved, and the latter called out to Vane to desist.

A parley ensued, when Gilbert and Hall dictated the terms upon which Mr. Keightley's life should be spared, viz., that as the Government had placed five hundred pounds upon Burke's head, the amount of the reward should be handed over to them, and they agreed to allow a certain time (till two o'clock the following day, Sunday) for the production of the money. Dr. Pechey then examined Burke and discovered a large wound in the abdomen, through which his entrails, in a frightfully torn and lacerated condition, were protruding. He was still breathing, though unconscious, and the doctor said he could do very little for him without his instruments. He asked, if one of them would go into Rockley, and fetch what he required, but they said it would be of no use, and that it would be better to shoot him at once and so end his misery. The doctor thought something ought to be done, and at length prevailed upon them to let him go and obtain such things as he wanted, having first pledged his honour that he would not raise an alarm. Before he returned the man was dead.

We have said O'Meally was absent, and Mrs. Keightley, fearing lest he might not agree to accept the ransom, prevailed upon one of the party to fetch him. When he came, he at first refused to listen to the proposal, and declared his intention to revenge the death of his companion; but he was, however, eventually pacified by the others. They then went into the house, and remained there for a considerable time, awaiting Dr. Pechey's return, and drank some spirits and wine, Mrs. Keightley having first tasted it, in order to assure them the liquor was not drugged. Some conversation passed, in which the bushrangers said that the reason Burke was so daring, arose from the fact that they had just previously been twitting him with the want of courage, and seemingly he was determined to convince them to the contrary. In answer to a question from Mrs. Keightley, as to what could induce them to pursue the course they did, when, by the many robberies they committed, they must possess considerable wealth, Gilbert replied—that, with all their depredations, they had not so much as would keep them a week.

Arrangements were next made for the payment of the ransom. Mr. Keightley was taken to a place called the Dog Rocks, on a hill near, and Mrs. Keightley was warned that if any information was given by which the police might be brought down upon them they would shoot her husband immediately. She was to go into Bathurst with Dr. Pechey, and fetch the money, and if any treachery was attempted, after shooting Mr. Keightley, they said they would come down and fight those who approached for the £500. The position they took upon the hill enabled them to overlook the road, so that they could see whoever might arrive, and it was stipulated that Dr. Pechey should alone approach them with the money. Burke being dead, two of the men, engaged at Mr. Bowman's, were hired to take the body in a spring cart to the house of his father, being paid £2 each for the service by the bushrangers. On the return of Dr. Pechey, Mrs. Keightley, under his escort, rode into Bathurst, where she sought out her father, Mr. Rotton, M.L.A. That gentleman instantly repaired to the Commercial Bank (it being about four o'clock in the morning) and procured the sum required, with which, accompanied by Dr. Pechey, he started to Dunn's Plains, where upon its being handed over to the party by the brave doctor, Mr. Keightley was set at liberty, and soon after arrived in safety at Bathurst. A body of police had, however, some time previously started in pursuit of the gang.

Mr. Keightley speaks most favourably of the manner in which he was treated during his captivity, and it seems he had a long conversation in the night with one or two of them, in which he was told that the gang would never have come into Bathurst, or visited him, had it not been for the taunts received from two individuals who ought to have known better than to spur them to the enterprise. They denied ever having threatened to use any violence towards him, but being told that he (Keightly) was a splendid shot, and would riddle them through, as he was in the habit of practising at a target, they imagined he must be possessed of first-class weapons, and the desire to possess these, as well as to test his courage, had induced them to make the attack they had. Personally, they did not know him. Once in the night, the galloping of horses was heard, and as for some time the bushrangers had taken it in turns to rest—two sleeping while the others watched—Gilbert, who was standing sentry over the prisoner, went up to the sleepers, and touched them gently with his foot, calling them quietly by name. They jumped up without noise, and held their weapons in readiness, but as the sound drew nearer, it was dicovered to emanate from a passing mob of bush horses.

The day before the occurrence took place which we have just described, Sub-inspector Davidson with some troopers were encamped near to Mr. Keightley's house, and the bushrangers told Mr. Keightley that they had been watching them through the night, and mentioned several little incidents that had transpired, in proof of their assertion. Mr. Davidson, it appears, declined to accept the accommodation proffered by Mr. Keightley, preferring to sleep out with his men, and Mr. Keightley was told of what happened during a visit he had paid the party, and also that they (the bushrangers) had been watching both him and the neighbourhood the whole day through. There are one or two circumstances which we have omitted to mention, but we believe the narrative we have given contains everything connected with the matter which can be relied upon.

As displaying the courage evinced by Mrs. Keightley, it is perhaps worthy of remark that upon the two gentlemen having left the doorway and gained the loft, that lady, undaunted by the firing which was going on, came up into the passage, closed the door, and barred it so as to prevent the entry of the bushrangers. As she did so, we learn, she unconsciously shut out her own little sister, who appears to have been standing in the yard during the whole fray, and it is also said was actually standing by the side of Burke when he received his death-wound.

The *Bathurst Free Press* of the same date adds:—A communication was received in Bathurst on Tuesday, to the effect that ten troopers from Cowra had arrived at Rockley. They said that twelve of them had left Cowra in company, and on their way across the country had met the two men who had charge of the body of Burke in Mr. Keightley's cart. Two of the troopers then took charge of the corpse and returned with the cart, intending to see it safely delivered to the authorities at Carcoar. We have reason to believe that their mission was safely accomplished.

THE EVIL EYE.—The following, of which we have credible information, is an apt illustration of how much old beliefs still hold their ground: At a farmhouse, not many miles from Inverness, a few nights ago, a cow was suddenly taken ill, and in the morning, as there was no improvement, the veterinary surgeon was sent for. He was not, however, to be found; and, in the meantime, the following expedient was carried out—with what effect the result will show: A bucket was filled with water from a stream over which the "living and the dead" had passed, and into it were dropped two shillings and a halfpenny. The cow was made to drink a small quantity of the water, and the remainder was thrown over her. The effect of the remedy, it is reported, was immediate, and proved as satisfactory, no doubt, to the animal as to the administrators, who looked upon the rapid recovery as a proof that the evil eye had fallen upon the cow. In connection with this subject, it may be mentioned that pieces of money are handed down in families for the purpose here spoken of.—*Inverness Courier.*

To the Editor of the Herald.
(Continued from the 22nd.)

SIR,—I thank you for the ready admission you have given to the views of an unknown writer on a difficult subject. Before I proceed to pursue further the train of thought on which you have allowed me to enter, permit me to correct two errors of the Press which have seriously affected the meaning of my letter, inserted by you on Thursday last. First—I am made to speak of "men in *affluence*" instead of "men in *office*," as forced to become the leaders of an ill conducted debating society. It would have been well, Sir, for New South Wales had these terms been indeed convertible. Poverty may be a stimulus to political aspirants, but it is too often also their temptation. The second *erratum* is merely the omission of that stout little word "no." I spoke of the late Ministers as feeling *no* groundless resentment." For though I know that the country has gained much by the practical admission that we are not tied down to "Hobson's choice" in Ministries; though I admit that there were many points on which the late Ministers were justly open to the censure of the House; still I can see that many of the attacks made on them were unwarrantable in form, if not in substance, and that in the final measuring-cast where they were beaten, the majority contained more than one waverer, whose vote they might have bought—more than one former adherent on whose support they might have relied if general corruption did not deaden the moral sense of individuals. So I do not wonder that they feel resentment, though I regret its premature and ill-judged expression, and deprecate the course of conduct to which it threatens to impel them. But the true question for the House and the colony is not how the Ministers that *were*, may, or should feel towards the Ministers that *are*, but what are the essential duties of a Government (whoever may be its members), and how their performance of those duties is to be rendered possible in New South Wales.

The ignorant (especially when they are likewise unthrifty or idle) have a vague belief in the omnipotence of legislation to ensure general prosperity. The half-educated stump orators, who trade on popular prejudices, are always puffing some legislative nostrum, the adoption of which by Government is to abolish poverty and all other ills incident to the body politic. But despite the visions of quacks and dupes, it remains true that a wise Government will legislate sparingly and never speculatively, and that its wisdom will principally be seen in the never-failing performance of its administrative duties. It will labour for the security of life and property; will encourage intercommunication and the free exchange of every natural and artificial product, and will seek to give a fair and open field to industry and enterprise of every kind. And when its aims soar (as those of a truly wise Government must often soar) above mere material interests, they will be directed to the maintenance of public faith and honour, and to the intellectual and spiritual improvement of the people. I need scarcely add, that it will constantly strive to lighten the public burthens, both by a judicious system of taxation and a discreet economy in expenditure.

In the name of common sense, Sir, how could the wisest of Governments—aye, even were each of its members as wise as the coarsest blockhead floated into our Assembly on a popular cry at once assumes to be—attain these objects (we had almost said any one of them) with our present Parliamentary system? Just now, there is a blessed calm, and had not two of the new Ministers to defend their seats against an opposition pushed (to say the least) to the utmost lengths permitted by political etiquette, they might all have had a month's free space for the display of what administrative energy they may possess. As it is I trust that before the House re-assembles we shall see some fruit of the new Proclamation against Gilbert's gang and their abettors. The startling financial disclosures of the last three days will probably also lead to the much-needed sifting of the public accounts during the recess. But when the talking-shop in Macquarie-street re-opens, what will be possible for Ministers in the way of administrative usefulness? Little enough, if the future is to be like the past. We cannot suppose that Mr. Cowper had any more sympathy with brigands than Mr. Martin; but we know that the triumphs of armed force over property and law began with the ill starred parley with insurgents at Burrangong. We know, that the wrong-doers went scot-free, and the wronged and robbed Chinese were fined to please them. We know that the one ringleader on whom the law obtained an effectual hold was released against the wish of the Government, and under circumstances which made his imprisonment rather a temptation than a warning. Were O'Meally caught a month hence, experience suggests the probability that he would find some friend or correspondent in the House to trumpet the virtues and compassionate the wrongs of the much enduring bushranger. Nor has it yet struck our men of bunkum that to divulge the plan of a campaign and publish the despatches to and from our generals is a course of proceeding somewhat favourable to the enemy. Mr. Martin will have enough to do to baffle mischievous curiosity when the House meets. He will not, I trust, be driven to meet cross questions by crooked answers, but he must make his mind up to endure a great deal of abuse if he maintain that secrecy, without which no police can be efficient. In fact, strong-handed repression of crime is *not popular*.

Again, suppose the Ministry minded, as I hope they will be, to do their utmost to open up the country by trunk railways and good turnpike roads, they will find themselves hampered by a system of petty contractors and penny wise pound foolish contracts. How was it that the country lost the services of a great English firm who would have had a thorough knowledge of their work with perfect machinery to carry it out? Not that the late Government wished for delays or failures in the work, but that Messrs. Peto would have brought labourers out in large numbers from England, and immigration, though vitally important to the colony, is a bugbear to many of our delegates because it is *not popular*.

The all-important questions of retrenchment and of fresh taxation to meet heavy debt and deficit will have to be paid. Here again the experience of the past suggests probable difficulties for the future. Though we have not quite reached the mature corruption of the United States before the civil war, when 80,000 offices changed hands at a Presidential election, we are pretty well advanced for so young a country. In almost every department there is a staff of officials far in excess of the real work to be done, and who consequently have to keep up appearances by making work for each other. Every man who lacks ability or steadiness to work independently lives in hope of becoming inspector or superintendent of something. Half the votes given and speeches made in the Assembly are aimed at a snug billet. And when the new Ministers try to carry out their expressed purpose of diminishing the number of *employés*, they must look for an earthquake cry from a legion of official supernumeraries actual and expectant, from Dick who does any amount of nothing, and Tom and Harry who are eager to help him; a cry which will thunder from the Opposition, and be echoed in murmurs even from the Treasury benches. Retrenchment of superfluous offices *is not popular*.

But how about contracts? How about bridges built on purpose that they may be swept away, and roads rendered impassable at a cost of so many thousands *per annum*? Are not these things a yearly godsend to the "poor man," to whose imaginary wrongs so many patriots give voice? Mr. Holroyd, I believe, means work; but he must expect other than merely material obstacles. Works cheaply and substantially executed are most needful, but they are *not popular*.

Once more we have to raise a large revenue. But what hopes are there for a budget framed on sound principles? Mr. Eagar would doubtless rejoice to get back the gold duties, only he can't. They were just—they were moderate—they were productive—but they were *not popular*. We have long enjoyed a tariff admirably simple and liberal—the legacy of that "irresponsible Government" which the late Ministry used to abuse alike whether they were marring or falsely claiming credit for its work. Present difficulties may render some changes and additions necessary, and no one need complain if here and there some duty, fairly imposed for the sake of revenue, should act as an encouragement to some infant branch of native industry; but what if free trade in *goods* should become unpopular, as has already happened in the case of *labour*—must that too follow in the wake of other lost blessings? Surely, Sir, these things are worth a thought. And if I return to the subject ere long your readers may indeed deem me tedious, but cannot charge me with trifling. I am, Sir, your faithful servant,

CIVIS.

EXHUMATION OF A BODY, AND CORONER'S INQUIRY.—In our last it was stated that, in consequence of a report to the effect that Mrs. Mary Ann Teresa Pennington, wife of Mr. Matthew Pennington, innkeeper at Binda, who died on the 3rd instant, had met her death by foul play, the body was exhumed, and an investigation before Dr. Waugh, coroner of the district, and a jury, was commenced on Friday at the Goulburn Hospital. After hearing the evidence of several witnesses who had been brought from Binda for the purpose, the inquest was adjourned till next day, in consequence of the absence from town of Dr. Hanford who had to make the post mortem examination. A magisterial inquiry had been held at the time of deceased's death, when, from the evidence given, it appeared that the deceased had died in fits; that she was of very intemperate habits, but was sober when she died. The evidence of sergeant Lynch, taken on Friday last before the coroner, explains what led to the exhumation of the body. He deposed; I am sergeant in the police; on the morning of the 14th instant ex-constable Morriss called at the barracks where I live; I conversed with him on the subject of Mrs. Pennington's death; he told me deceased's husband was in the habit of beating her frequently and savagely; that he had been in custody once for almost killing her; that on hearing of her death, thinking something was wrong, he went to the house, thinking to be asked in to see the body, but he was not asked to do so; I asked him if there had not been an inquiry held; he replied "yes, or a kind of one;" from the manner in which he said it I thought he considered the inquiry unsatisfactory, and that he was satisfied the woman was either poisoned or murdered; he told me also that Pennington's servant girl had been examined on the inquiry, that she was asked if she had seen Mr. Pennington beat the deceased on the morning of her death, and that she replied no, but when asked subsequently to the inquiry, by some persons living there, if she had not heard Pennington beat her that morning, she had said yes, that the question had not been put to her on the inquiry, and that she thought it quite enough to answer such questions as were put to her; I said I heard that the deceased had a mark over one of her eyes; he said "yes, I have been told one of her arms was broken;" I am aware that Edward Morriss, my informant, was summoned to appear here to-day to give evidence on the inquest, and that he is not in attendance; Morriss also gave me to understand that there was great dissatisfaction as to the manner of the inquiry, and the cause of death of the deceased.—Constable Molloy proved serving subpœna on Morriss about ten o'clock in the forenoon; Morriss was then in bed; told witness he had a bad cold, and that on the previous day he had a fall from his horse and hurt his back, and that he would be unable to attend; he appeared to have been drinking, and witness was aware that he had been drinking heavily the previous week.—Matthew Pennington, husband of deceased, deposed, that he had been the cause of Morriss several years ago being removed from the office of constable at Binda; Morriss had recently ill-treated witness and knocked him down. The evidence of the servant girl M'Kinnon, referred to by Morriss, quite contradicted that person's statement, and proved that deceased died in fits, and that she had not suffered from ill-treatment. Dr. Hanford after making the *post mortem* examination, and finding that the arm was not broken, gave it as his opinion that death had resulted from epileptic fits. Mr. E. Webster, poundkeeper at Binda, who practises the medical profession there, and who was called in to see the deceased the day of deceased's death, was of the same opinion. The rest of the evidence was to a similar effect as that of the girl M'Kinnon, and left no doubt on the minds of the jury as to the cause of death. They accordingly returned a verdict of died from natural causes, accelerated by intemperate habits, with the following rider:—"The jury are unanimously of opinion that the information given to the police by Edward Morriss was both false and malicious; and desire to draw the attention of the authorities to this wanton act of mischief whereby such great inconvenience has been uselessly caused to both witnesses and jurymen in attendance."—*Goulburn Herald.*

MORE ABOUT THE BUSHRANGERS.—Writing on the 23rd instant, from Carcoar, the correspondent of the *Bathurst Times* says:—Gilbert, O'Meally, Ben Hall, Vane, and Burke paid a visit to Mr. Lawson, at Flyer's Creek, seven miles from this town, on Thursday, about two o'clock p.m. On Mr. Lawson seeing them approaching the house he made off, and kept out of the way till they left. The bushrangers entered the house and asked the housekeeper, an elderly woman, where the keys were, when she replied she did not know. They brought an axe and broke open all the doors, and took out all the boxes on the floor, and appropriated what they pleased. They then ran the horses in from the paddock, and took away three, amongst which was "Mickey Free," the racehorse. After this they left and made for Messrs. Welber and Francks, on the opposite side of the creek, and bailed those gentlemen up, together with about thirty sheep-washers and shearers that were in the shed at the time. They took a quantity of wearing apparel, two horses, saddles, and bridles, and when they left they had five horses, saddles, and bridles with them. About half an hour after they were gone six troopers came up, but though they were put on the bushrangers' tracks, they, as usual, lost them. The same evening a report came into town that the bushrangers were camped at Kerr's station, about one mile from the town. The police did not believe the report; therefore, nothing was done; but it has been proved since that they were waiting for the report of the Flyer's Creek robbery to reach town, as they intended, so soon as the police left, to make their way into Carcoar.

"MY PEW, SIR."—While the Convention which nominated General Taylor was in session at Philadelphia, a somewhat noted politician from Pickaway, county Ohio, was in the city mingling in the mass. As the Convention adjourned over Sunday he concluded to go to church. "I mounted my best regalia," he says, "and looked fine; stopped at the door and asked the sexton for a seat; was shown a very good one, entirely unoccupied, in the back part of which I seated myself. In a short time a very decent-looking man, plainly dressed, entered and took the front of the pew. I held my head reverently and looked pious. He glanced at me several times, then took out a white handkerchief, looked at me again, then took out a card, drew his pencil, wrote, 'This is my pew, sir,' and tossed the card to me. I picked it up, and immediately wrote on it, 'It is a very good one; what rent do you pay?' and tossed it back."

SPRING EXHIBITION OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE second Spring Exhibition of the Horticultural Society of Sydney, was opened on Wednesday, in the large hall of the School of Arts, and closed last night. An application had been made for the show to be held—as has been the custom hitherto—in the Botanic Gardens, but the favour was refused by the late Minister for Lands. Although disappointed in this particular, the committee got up a very successful and creditable exhibition; and the amount of public patronage that they have received during the two days that it was open, will no doubt encourage them to still further exertions, thereby extending the usefulness and the influence of the society. At present, owing to the recent establishment of the societ, and to its being composed to a large extent of practical gardeners, they are not in a position to offer very valuable prizes; sufficient inducement was, however, afforded to the Sydney horiculturists to exhibit in competition for the prizes, a large number of choice and very beautiful plants, and some fine samples of fruits and vegetables.

The hall in which the exhibition took place had been tastefully decorated for the occasion, with foliage wreathed along the walls, the busts were ornamented with branches of zamia, and a fine grass-tree was placed against the gallery. The Volunteer Rifle band attended on both days, and performed some popular pieces of music.

In proceeding to refer generally to the more noticeable features of the exhibition, we may mention that there was a large and fine collection of roses. Mr. Henderson was the successful competitor—his Lord Raglan being an extremely beautiful flower. Mr. Bell furnished some splendid specimens, and would have taken the first prize but for the circumstance of his collection containing two roses of the same description. The roses exhibited by Mr. Saxby were also rare and elegant. The pinks of Mr. Saxby showed a marked improvement upon previous exhibitions. Of verbenas there was a very fair collection; and some fine pansies were shown by Mr Saxby. Mr. Parcel's roses were greatly admired, particularly the Lord Raglan and the Prince de Leon. Mr. Warey's ornamental garden edgings and ornamental flower pots were favourably noticed. Some very fine double and semi-double poppies were exhibited from the garden of Mr. J. E. Manning. Mr. Broomfield exhibited several gladiolus, lilies, and fuschias, which were very beautiful and deserving of great credit for an amateur. The bouquets exhibited were mere bunches of flowers, and did not show much taste. The large and valuable collection of commercial and medicinal plants, belonging to Mr. Paterson, constituted an important and interesting feature in the exhibition. The miniature gardens sent by Mr. Reece and Mr. Woolf were both designed with considerable taste, and had a very pretty effect. Mr. Reece obtained for this a prize of gold trinkets, from Mr. Paterson, in addition to the society's first prize. The device of Mr. Gale was also deservedly admired; it consisted of a cottage and garden grounds, formed chiefly of small shells. Some fine basket ferns, and also some new and rare exotic ferns were exhibited from Mr. Young's garden. One of the most noticeable plants in the exhibition was the Aphelandra Leopoldi, from the West Indies, belonging to Mr. J. R. Young. The first prize for orchids was given for the Phais grandifolia, from Mr. F. Tooth's garden. Among the variegated plants exhibited was a Dipteracanthus Herbsti, the leaves of which are ornamented with silver veins. The specimens of variegated begonias were much admired for their beautiful foliage. The first prize for three creepers was won by Mr. Henderson, who exhibited two fine specimens of Climatis, and one of Passiflora racemosa. A fine Dracæna ferrea, from Mr. Prince's garden, was greatly admired. Much praise is also due to Mr. C. Moore, of the Botanic Gardens, for his splendid collection of variegated plants, orchids, palms, and ferns; his geraniums also were extremely beautiful. The fuchsias exhibited did not come up to the mark, the season being rather too early for them. Among the fine-foliage plants sent in competition was a Cissus discolor, which was remarkable for the metallic lustre of its leaf. Of verbenas grown in pots the only samples were from Mr. H. Moore's garden, comprising some fine varieties. The pine apples from Queensland, were much admired for their size. Mr. Hearn, of Petersham, exhibited some excellent samples of loquats and rhubarb. Generally the peas and potatoes were very fine, as were also the carrots and parsnips from Mr. Saxby's garden. Some splendid lettuces, from Mr. H. Moore's garden, also deserve to be specially noticed.

We subjoin a list of the prizes awarded:—

A—1. Mr. M. Bell, 6 ferns.
2. Mr. H. Parcel, 6 ditto.
1. Mr. H. Parcel, 12 ditto.
2. Mr. Bell, 12 ditto.
2. Mr. Henderson, 4 carti.
1. Mr. Vernon, 6 geraniums.
2. Mr. Henderson, 6 ditto.
1. Mr. Bell, 3 fuchsias.
1. Mr. Vernon, 12 ditto.
1. Mr. Piper, 6 cineraria.
2. Mr. Bell, 6 ditto.
2. Mr. Piper, 6 verbenas.
1. Mr. Vernon, specimen orchid.
Extra. Mr. Bell, variegated plant.
1. Mr. Bell, variegated begonia.
2. Mr. Vernon, ditto ditto.
1. Mr. Henderson, 3 creepers.
2. Mr. Vernon, ditto ditto.
1. Mr. Paterson, commercial plants.
2. Mr. Vernon, hardy ornamental plants—out of flower.
1. Mr. Parcel, 6 variegated plants.
2. Mr. Bell, ditto.
1. Mr. Parcel, single specimen variegated plant.
2. Mr. Woolf.
1. Mr. Parcel, Spicumes plant in flower.
1. Mr. Parcel, lycopods.
2. Mr. Bell, ditto.
Extra Mr. Bell, new and rare ferns.
Ditto, Mr. Parcel, basket ferns.
1. Mr. Woolf, wardian case.
C—1. Mr. Henderson, 36 roses.
2. Mr. Bell, ditto.
1. Mr. Parcel, 24 ditto.
2. Mr. Henderson, 24 ditto.
1. Mr. Saxby, 12 ditto
2. Mr. Henderson, ditto.
Extra Mr. Stephens, ditto.
2. Mr. Saxby, 3 pinks.
1. Mr. Piper, 12 verbenas.
1. Mr. Henderson, 6 retunias.
1. Mr. Woolf, wardian case.
1. Mr. Darley, bouquet for hand.
1. Mr. Henderson, ditto for table.
2. Mr. Stephens, ditto ditto.
1. Mr. Reece, miniature garden.
2. Mr. Woolf, ditto.
1. Mr. Dummer, Device.
1. Mr. Gale, ditto.
D—Mr. Thomas, 12 roses.
C—2. Mr. Stephens, 12 verbenas.
Extra. Mr. Henderson, 3 cut geraniums.
A—Mr. Parcel, 3 begonias.
A—Mr. Henderson, 3 retunias.
E—1. Bearne and Bellenger, collection purchased fruit.
2. Mr. Nixon, ditto.
1. Mr. Sledge, strawberries.
2. Bearne and Bellenger, ditto.
1. Mr. Hearn, loquats
1. Mr. Paterson, medicinal plants.
1. Mr. Saxby, parsnips.
Honorable mention—Mr. Piper, skinless peas.
1. Mr. Saxby, carrots.
2. Bearne and Bellenger, carrots.
1. Ditto ditto, asparagus.
2. Mr. Saxby, ditto.
1. Ditto, rhubarb.
2. Mr. Hearn, ditto.
6. Bearne and Bellenger, 3 dishes beans.
1. Ditto ditto, 3 cabbages.
1. Ditto ditto, potatoes.
Extra. Mr. Mortimer, collection vegetables.
1. Mr. Piper, lettuce.
1. Bearne and Bellenger, peas.
2. Mr. Creswick, peas.
Extra. Mr. Saxby, leeks.
Ditto. Mr. Sledge, sea kale.
1. Mr. Piper, culinary herbs.
Extra. Mr. Broomfield, lilies, gladiolus, fuschias.
Ditto. Mr. Billyard, 6 ferns, 6 roses, 12 verbenas.

ABSTRACT OF SALES BY AUCTION THIS DAY.

MESSRS. BURT AND CO.—At their Bazaar, at 11 o'clock, Horses.

MR. S. WOOLLER.—At his Repository, at 11 o'clock, Horses, Carts, Dogcarts, Harness; at the Camperdown Yards, at 2 o'clock, Colts and Fillies.

MESSRS. CHAS. MOORE AND CO.—On premises, in George-street South, at 10 o'clock, Shop Fittings, &c.; at their Rooms, at 11 o'clock, Drapery, Clothing, Fancy Goods, Hats, Bonnets, &c.

MESSRS. DURHAM AND IRWIN.—At their Produce Stores, at 11 o'clock, Wool, Sheepskins, Tallow, Hides, Leather.

MR. J. G. COHEN.—At his Rooms, at 11 o'clock, English-made Furniture.

MR. C. TEAKLE.—At his Rooms, at half-past 10 o'clock, Drapery, Slops, &c.; at 11 o'clock, Ribbons, Velvets, Muslins, &c.

MESSRS. CHATTO AND HUGHES.—At their Rooms, at 11 o'clock, Tinware, Bolts and Nuts.

MESSRS. L. E. THRELKELD AND CO.—At the Stores of Messrs. Scott, Henderson, and Co., George-street, at half-past 10 o'clock, Hogsheads Stout.

MR. T. W. BOWDEN.—At the Commissariat Stores, at 10 o'clock, Biscuits, Blankets, Ale, Casks, &c.

MESSRS. BRADLEY AND NEWTON.—At their Rooms, at 11 o'clock, Books, Stationery, Ink, Paper, Pier, Cheval, and Dressing Glasses.

Mr. H. D. COCKBURN.—At 141, Clarence-street, at 10 o'clock, Household Furniture, Tools, &c.

MESSRS. ALEXANDER MOORE and CO.—At their Mart, at 11 o'clock, Musical Instruments, Watches, Clothing, Firearms, &c.

MR. T. DAWSON.—At his Depot, at 11 o'clock, Calves, Lambs, Pigs, Butter, Cheese, Bacon, Eggs, Potatoes, Fruits, &c.

AN ODD MISPRINT ENOUGH.—By a curious misprint, occurring in one of the last issues of the *London Gazette*, an old failing of the human race seems to have "cropped up" into a new trade, where mention is made of "The estates of John Baird and Sons, *Sinners*, wool-dealers, and leather-dressers, Silver Mills, Edinburgh."

MERCANTILE AND MONEY ARTICLE.

THURSDAY EVENING.

THE amount of Customs duties paid to-day is as follows:—

Brandy	£110 9 9
Gin	138 19 5
Whisky	33 5 0
Rum	159 12 0
Perfumed spirits	7 17 11
Wine	2 18 9
Tobacco and snuff	35 6 9
Tea	5 13 6
Coffee and chicory	9 14 3
Sugar, unrefined	500 3 3
Pilotage	11 16 0
Dues...	1 15 0
Total	£1117 3 8

A meeting of the creditors of Mr. John Meillon (Meillon and Son), merchant, was held to-day, at 3 o'clock, Mr. G. King in the chair. A rough statement of accounts was drawn up showing liabilities to the amount of £21,000; and contingent liabilities, £20,000: total, £41,000. Assets, £12,000. The statement of the firm was considered most unsatisfactory, no proper books having been kept. After considerable discussion a committee, consisting of Messrs. King, Wild, and J. G. Ross, were appointed to examine the accounts and report to a future meeting. It is, however, believed that in consequence of the manner in which the accounts have been kept, that his estate must go through the Insolvent Court, the chairman and others present having expressed great dissatisfaction at the statement laid before them by Mr. Meillon.

Messrs. Mort and Co. held, to day, their weekly produce sale. The quantity of wool catalogued was 142 bales, but only 41 were sold. The wool market continues depressed, and, as buyers will not operate at the high reserves fixed on their wool by holders, only a few sales were effected. Three lots of the new clip were offered, but only one lot of 24 bales of fleece, JMP, was sold at 1s. 5d. The prices realised for the lots sold ranged as follows:—Fleece, 16½d. to 17d.; scoured, 16½d. to 20d.; handwashed, 10½d.; grease, 6½d. to 6¾d.

There was a new feature in the produce sale to day, a large quantity of cotton, 125 bales from the Fijis, and four bales from the Clarence River, New South Wales, was offered, and attracted some competition. Three bales of cotton, free from seed, from the Fijis, was knocked down, after some spirited bidding, at 21¾d. per lb. The 122 bales of cotton, with seed, from the same place, did not excite so much competition, and was sold at 5½d. per lb. The four bales, the product of this colony, with seed, brought 7¾d. per lb.

SHEEPSKINS are firm, and prices are well maintained. The downward tendency noticed in the wool market has not had the slightest effect upon skins. About 1000 sheepskins were sold at from 6½d. to 8½d. per lb.

TALLOW.—This market is exceedingly depressed, and as sales were without reserve to-day a decline of fully 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per cent. has taken place. The high rates lately ruling have only been kept up by the town trade, and by the small quantity sold. It was therefore expected that when sales were forced a heavy decline would take place, the rates formerly ruling having precluded all purchases for shipment. About 85 casks of tallow were sold, at from 24s. 6d. to 30s. per ton.

HIDES are not in much demand. The highest prices obtained for heavy hides to-day were 13s. 3d. each, for a lot of 65, and 13s. 7d. each for a lot of 133, and 12s. 8d. each for a lot of 112 not catalogued. Of 1046 hides offered about 750 were sold at from 4s. to 13s. 7d. each. Hair brought from 4½d. to 7d. per lb.

At Mr. O. B. Ebsworth's produce sale, held to-day, 17 bales out of 18 catalogued were disposed of. The only lot of any amount was 10 bales of wool in the grease, marked RJ over HKD, which brought 8¾d. per lb. Prices ranged as follows: Handwashed, 6d. to 1s. 3d. fleece, 1s. 6½d.; grease, 6½d. to 8¾d.; scoured, 1s. 4d. Sheepskins were sold at from 6d. to 7½d. per lb.; and five casks of tallow at 28s. 3d. to 29s. 3d. per cwt. 101 hides brought from 5s. to 8s. each, and calfskins 1s. 8d. each.

Mr. O. B. Ebsworth also sold to-day, at Petersham, a mixed lot of cows and bullocks. The attendance of the retail trade was more numerous than usual, and the biddings were brisk. Prices ranged as follows:—Cows, £3 1s. to £3 8s.; bullocks, £3 5s. to £5 17s. per head, according to quality.

The ship La Hogue arrived to-day, with a cargo of general merchandise.

Messrs. L. E. Threlkeld and Co. report having offered the cargo of teas ex Emma and Mathilde, on account of Messrs. Brown and Co. A fair proportion of the cargo was placed at prices showing a decided advance upon last quotations. The balance of Mauritius sugar ex Sea Breeze was disposed of at same time, at prices shewing an improvement upon recent sales.

BUILDING OF THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA.—The estimation in which the Mongols were held by the Chinese may be gleaned from the fact

AMERICA.

THE STORMING OF CHARLESTON AND FORT WAGNER.

THE *New York Herald* publishes the following despatches from Charleston:—

"Morris Island, July 17.

"For some nights we have been again feeling the rebels by the same means as resulted in the first victory on Morris Island. Our troops, under direction of the engineers, had been planting heavy batteries close up to Fort Wagner. They had worked secretly, and the rebels had no knowledge of these works except that they inferred from the character of the first attack and General Gilmore's style of operating that we were not keeping several regiments constantly under fire on open ground without preparations of some kind for getting our pay. It is evident they mistrusted we were building batteries of some kind somewhere. It was a considerable object for them to learn their whereabouts and strength, so they thought they would make a night assault on us, having become partial to night assaults after seeing how near we were to being successful with ours on the 11th. They took one prisoner, killed one, wounded two, and skedaddled. Our troops on James Island, near the Stono River, had quite a brisk engagement with the enemy on Thursday morning, the 16th. They were attacked at half-past four a.m. by a strong force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, but succeeded in repulsing it, with great loss to the enemy. The following are the particulars of the affair:—On Wednesday morning, the 15th, the pickets from the 54th Massachusetts (coloured) Regiment, of Montgomery's black brigade, reported the enemy coming down in force from the direction of Secessionville. This proved, however, to be only a reconnaissance, and there was no further alarm during the day. At evening the enemy were again reported to be coming down, and general preparations were made for an attack. In the Stono River, protecting the left flank of General Terry's division, was the gunboat Pawnee, her guns when she was broadside to being ample protection against attack on that flank. But at this time she had swung round with the tide, so that her guns did not bear on that point. A field battery of six guns was brought down by the rebels within 350 yards of the Pawnee, and a very rapid fire was opened on her. Fifty-one shots were fired, and thirty-nine of them struck the Pawnee's hull, damaging her somewhat, but not disabling her. She got aground after she had slipped her cable, but soon got her guns to bear, and returned a broadside, which started the rebels at a double quick. They only waited for two shells to strike in their midst, from a 200-lb. rifle, and then skedaddled. Four regiments of infantry were massed in front of General Terry's centre, and another field battery, supported by 150 cavalry, came down and attacked the right flank. The attack was simultaneous at the three points, and commenced at about daybreak. The pickets were broken through and driven back to the reserve, but General Terry's whole division was promptly formed to receive the attack. Brigadier-General Stephenson had command of the first line, and Colonel W. H. H. Davis, of the 104th Pennsylvania, Acting Brigadier-General, of the second line. The line of battle was formed with woods on both flanks. As a result of the Pawnee's firing the attack had to be made in front, and by the left of the enemy. Their object had evidently been to disable the Pawnee, expose our left flank, and turn it. When the attack came, our left drove everything before it, and we then had to deal only with the rebel left column. Their artillery on the left came up within 500 yards of our line of battle, and fired English shells at us, with their usually poor aim, the shells going over the heads of the troops, bursting in the camps, but doing no particular damage. Captain Rockwood, with his Connecticut battery, responded to this fire, and poured percussion shells into the rebels, with great effect and much more accuracy than they had shown. The steamers John Adams, and Mayflower, which were lying in Stono River, steamed up a little creek and opened a cross fire on the rebels with some guns on board. On the Mayflower was a 32-pounder Parrott gun. This was manned by the servants and crew of the ship, and some shells were thrown among the rebels with remarkable precision for mere amateurs. The rebels were evidently slaughtered in large numbers. Three ambulances and a numerous stretcher corps were seen diligently at work. We could occasionally see the fatal effects of our firing on the rebels, and many saddles among the cavalry were emptied. At the end of an hour from the time of attack the rebels fled in great confusion, leaving knapsacks, muskets, and equipments behind in their haste. They retreated over two causeways, in the direction of Secessionville. We had only eight killed and twenty-four wounded, according to General Terry's official report, mostly of the 24th Massachusetts, and these casualties occurred principally in the first attack on the pickets. The 54th fought very bravely. They had numerous invitations to become prisoners, under circumstances calculated to influence an acceptance; but they declined in every instance, for the terrors of bondage and strangulation and tortures were worse than those of death. I do not learn that a single prisoner was taken from their regiment. Not myself a believer in the arming of negroes, free or contraband, as soldiers, I must do this regiment the credit of fighting bravely and well. Cowards would have forgotten the future in the present and sacrificed prospective danger for temporary security. The rebels attacked them with a cry of "No quarter," and they accepted the conditions of the fight. Several fell pierced by many bullets while fighting singly with half-a-dozen rebels who were trying to capture them. One black man bayoneted an officer who was leading a squad of men, and then gave a thrust which wounded a sergeant just as he was falling with five bullets through his body. Another, whose arm had been shot off, brought his musket off the field in the other hand, carrying it till he fell down and bled to death.

"The following was published on Tuesday, and has added to the enthusiasm of the troops:—

"'Order.

"'Head-quarters, Department of the South, Morris Island, S.C., July 13.

"'The Brigadier-General commanding presents his congratulations and thanks to the army which he has the honour to command for their brilliant victory of the 10th instant, which places them three miles nearer the rebel stronghold of Sumter, the first among all our country's defences against foreign foes that felt the polluting tread of traitors.

"'Our labours, however, are not over. They are just begun; and, while the spires of the rebel city still loom up in the dim distance, hardships and privations must be endured before our hopes and expectations can find full fruition in victory.

"'Let us emulate the heroic deeds of our brothers in arms at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, and add to that roll of fame which will be transmitted to a grateful posterity.

"'Special thanks are due to Brigadier-General Vogdes and his command for the untiring energy and patient endurance displayed by them in erecting the batteries on Folly Island, under every conceivable disadvantage, and to Brigadier-General George C. Strong and his command for the heroic gallantry with which they carried the enemy's batteries on Morris Island, this being the first instance during the war in which powerful batteries have been assaulted successfully by a column disembarked under a heavy artillery fire.

"'Q. A. GILLMORE, Brigadier-General commanding.'

"Morris Island, S. C., July 22, a.m.

"The attack on Fort Wagner has commenced, and we are not successful. On Saturday last the fort was bombarded from morning till night by our land batteries and the navy, and at dusk a storming party of eleven regiments had a bloody fight around and in the fort, which resulted in our repulse, with heavy loss in killed, wounded, and missing. It had been raining during the night, and the morning sky was inauspiciously clouded. Our troops had many of them been hard at work, but the arrangements were not all completed so that the attack could commence at three a.m., as had been intended. The rebels evidently were, as usual, in a cloud. They had anticipated an attack earlier; they did not particularly expect one then. There was much disappointment, an hour after hour passed in the morning, that our guns were still silent; but the impatient ones had not long to wait. The first gun from our batteries was fired at just half-past nine o'clock. It was from the left of our line of works, where a mortar battery had been located, nearly or wholly unobserved by the rebels. It burst in the air, nearly over the fort, and the rebels saw that the attack was to be made at once. Spectators began to throng the bluffs further up on the island, and the infantry supports were placed in proper position, covered from the rebel fire as much as possible. Captain Langdon, of the 1st United States Artillery, followed with his guns and mortars on our right, firing slowly at first, according to orders, getting the range exactly, and finally bursting nearly every shell in or just over some part of the rebel works. We soon had a number of guns and mortars playing on the fort, firing shells exclusively, with great precision, and at the rate, to commence with, of several a minute. It was not long before Wagner replied with an 8-inch shell, which went over the heads of our artillerists on the right, and burst as it struck the ground. The Sumter trained one of her Brooke guns on the right batteries, and sent a big shell over into the water. From Fort Wagner the shells kept coming, and Fort Sumter continued her fire, sometimes bursting her shells directly over the works, but usually too soon or too late to do damage; and when a shell looked particularly threatening, or exploded, and sent its fragments howling along directly in our faces, we had good cover. As nearly as I could judge, some four different guns were used on our land works from Fort Wagner, and two on our fleet. Sumter did not work but two guns, but those with considerable precision. Vinegar-hill, in front of Fort Gregg, on Cumming's Point, apparently had two guns bearing on us; and from the opposite side of the harbour, Fort Moultrie and Battery Bee—which everybody obstinately insists on locating at Cumming's Point—tried their thunder a few times ineffectually. It had been understood that the monitors and ironsides were to take part in the bombardment, and many anxious eyes were directed towards them as they lay, without a sign of motion, just inside the bar, off our part of Morris Island. For nearly two hours had our batteries been speaking, but no signs of life were visible among the ironclads. They looked as if asleep, but they were only snoozing. Suddenly somebody discovered that the decks of the monitors were cleared for action. Then we noticed Admiral Dahlgren's flag at the Montauk's bow, but still the iron fleet did not move. All eyes, disappointed, were turned to the beleaguered fort, and the shells bursting over her, and our batteries, on which the rebels were wasting ammunition. At a little past 11, everybody was gratified to see the iron-clads moving. They went very slowly, as people walk in the dark, feeling their way along; but as they passed, vessel after vessel, their progress was increased. The Montauk led off, with the Admiral's flag flying, followed closely by the Ironsides, a monstrous moving black mass, with her portholes opened promisingly, such a craft as timid forts must dislike to see approaching. Then came the Catskill, the Weehawken, the Patapsco, and the Nahant. Slowly they stretched out in line, one after another coming up in position, the Montauk on the right, creeping up gradually. They stopped when three-fourths of a mile or more from Fort Wagner, and the Montauk fired the first gun from the iron fleet. It went ricocheting over the water, and burst just short of the rebel work. Then the Monitor, on the left of the Ironsides, sent a second one, in similar style, spinning along, the fragments throwing up dust from Wagner's seaward walls. But the Ironsides was yet to speak. In a few moments smoke puffed from all her portholes on her port side, and almost every shell, or its fragments, touched Fort Wagner somewhere. Some ricocheted and exploded directly over the fort. Some sent the dirt flying from both parapets and a traverse or two, and burst in the marsh beyond. Our land batteries were all the time working. The other Monitors were sending in their compliments, and soon there was such a cloud of smoke that, as the Ironsides sent broadside after broadside, the fort had an infernal look, enveloped in smoke, and, throwing out tongues of flame as shells exploded in the cloud. As our guns and mortars increased the rapidity of their fire, and the ironclads concentrated their efforts upon her, a few wild shots in all directions were fired by Fort Wagner, those at the fleet going nowhere near them, and then her firing stopped entirely. But through the smoke and fire we could occasionally see the rebel flag still flying, so we knew they had not surrendered. Fort Sumter belched forth as rapidly and furiously as possible, like an angry hen with a chicken in danger, and the other forts chimed in at intervals, but scarcely any casualties occurred on our side. At half-past two o'clock a shell burst close to the rebel flag in Fort Wagner, the fragments flying through and all about it. The top of the staff disappeared, the halyards were out, and the colours came down in the dust. They did not appear immediately, and some supposed the fort had surrendered; but in a moment a shell was fired, for the first time in many minutes, from a casemated gun on the sea-shore side, rather defiantly, but very inaccurately. Soon a squad of rebels were seen rigging up a battle flag on a jury mast, stuck in the parapet. Then a rebel flag appeared beside it, and together they waved through the terrific bombardment till evening, sometimes torn, but never brought down again. A brisk cannonade was kept up through the whole afternoon from our land batteries and the fleet, feebly responded to as compared with our rapid and continuous firing. I have omitted to mention that in the forenoon, before the iron-clads went into action, some of the wooden gunboats and a mortar schooner had opened on the attacked fort, making some splendid shots. They continued their firing through the whole bombardment. The Paul Jones, with her 200-pounder bow gun, planted big shells directly in the rebel works. Towards night General Seymour and General Strong, with some of their staff officers, went up from the front to the look-out, and had an interview with General Gillmore. For seven hours our batteries and the navy had been engaged, and the fort showed no signs of giving out. Wagner had stopped firing, and her men were evidently where shells could do them no harm. Whether as the result of this consultation, or in accordance with previous arrangements, I cannot say, it was evident that the fort was now to be stormed. The troops for the work had been selected, and they received orders to move at once. General Strong had orders to march his brigade across the open land to the beach near the old house at the right of our works; and for this movement the 54th Massachusetts, Colonel Robert Shaw, was added temporarily to his command. His other regiments were the 6th Connecticut, Colonel John L. Chatfield; 9th Maine, Colonel Sabine Emory; the remnant of the 7th Connecticut battalion, Captain Sylvester S. Gray (not with the storming party); 48th New York, Colonel William B. Barton; 76th Pennsylvania, commanded by Captain John Littell; and the 3rd New Hampshire, Colonel J. H. Jackson. Colonel H. S. Putnam was ordered to advance with his brigade to the rear of Strong's. His brigade had been on the beach under the bluffs all day, and consisted of the 7th New Hampshire, Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Abbott in command; 100th New York, Colonel Dandy; 67th Ohio, Colonel A. C. Voris; and the 62nd Ohio, Colonel Howell. Brigadier-General Stevenson was also ordered towards the front with his fine brigade as a reserve. It became necessary to communicate with Admiral Dahlgren, so that he might co-operate with the projected movement. Captain Burger, of General Gillmore's staff, was selected to bear the message—no trifling duty, for Admiral Dahlgren was on the Montauk, and the Montauk had just crept up nearer to Fort Wagner. Her movement had excited suspicion, and from the rebel forts desperate but futile efforts were being made to disable her. Safe enough inside, but her deck and vicinity did not look very inviting. A boat drawn up on the beach was impressed for the service; but her crew objected, under the circumstances, to visiting the Montauk. Eight sturdy oarsmen from the 7th New Hampshire volunteered at once, and in half an hour Captain Burger was returning safely. As a part of the plan the land batteries and ironclads now made a furious assault on the fort, firing with the greatest possible rapidity, and giving the spot where their fire concentrated a more and more infernal look. Smoke completely enveloped it, and the flashing of the bursting shells came out like the tongues of flame from a burning volcano. Large columns of smoke towered upwards, till they were swept away in clouds by the breeze. The puffs of vapour from exploded shells floated around like little balloons, gradually expanding and mixing into the mass of smoke. The roar from the guns and mortars was almost deafening. Under this cover the two brigades advanced. Strong's brigade marched in column up past the old building on the right of our batteries, then deployed and advanced in line a short distance, then deployed again, and marched up the beach in close column, Putnam's brigade following at supporting distance, and halting at a point where they had been ordered to stop. Fort Sumter saw the movement, and pitched her shells over among the troops, but hurt none of them. When Strong's troops, led by their gallant general, had got two-thirds the distance to the fort the cannonading ceased, to avoid injuring our own troops, and then the rebels in Fort Wagner came out in full strength. A thousand muskets flashed almost together, and poured a deadly fire into our troops. The guns were brought to bear on them, and grape and canister hailed down upon them. With a shout they advanced, at a word from the general, on a double quick, unfaltering, directly up into that terrible fire. Musketry rattled, Sumter's shells burst all around them, bullets whistled, canister hummed, grape ploughed along the ground, the fort was lighted up almost constantly with the fire from howitzers, rifles, and muskets—not in fitful flashes, but with steady, gleaming sheets of flame. They never staggered—never waved—did not stop for the many who fell, or listen to the moans of the wounded. They reached the ditch and crossed it, some on planks, some rushing down and toiling up, some seeking a better entrance to the left, where the ditch was, however, filled with water. As they were making the crossing howitzers in the bastions kept up a raking fire, prostrating many bodies, but not deterring the mass. Over they went, and clambered up the parapets. But the grape met them every where, sweeping the ditch, the curtains outside; the parapets above, and the rebel infantry, seeing all, but unseen themselves, peppered them with bullets and gave no chance to respond effectually. Some retreated without further effort, the majority struggled on manfully and charged down over the parapet, driving all before them. There was certain danger now in retreating, uncertain danger in staying or advancing. The rebels were driven from one corner over a traverse, and the 6th Connecticut colours planted on the parapet. But from the opposite sides of the fort, from behind parapets and traverses and bastions, the fire was kept up. Two guns commanded our position with their volleys of grape. All attempts to reach them commenced with slaughter and ended with retreat. The 54th Massachusetts (coloured) found a place lower down, and charged bravely over the parapet, their officers urging them to distinguish themselves. But the rebels made a dash at them with all their bitter feeling against negro troops aroused, and neglected all else for a moment in attacking the negroes. They took some prisoners—slaughtered many; bayonets clashed and muskets rattled, and the Massachusetts blacks got bewildered. They barely saved one of their flags, and the staff of another, and then, with thinned ranks, retreated through the showers of iron hail, leaving their colonel in the fort, many officers unaccounted for, and many black bodies lifeless or disabled, along their track. All the other regiments got, wholly or in part, on or over the parapets, but all were finally forced to flee. The contest on their part was a short but bloody one. Had these regiments held on together but a moment longer they would have had a whole brigade to help them; but the difficulties were greater than had been anticipated, and they could not be longer held where victory seemed so impossible. With one or two regiments it was a rout; they went off helter-skelter, running wildly, anxious only for some shelter from the rebel fire. Others marched off as orderly as if executing a simple manœuvre, carrying their arms and taking away such of their wounded as were outside the ditch. The brigade of Colonel H. S. Putnam, with his 7th New Hampshire Regiment, on the right, when the advance was ordered, moved to the rear of the old house behind our batteries, and deployed into line. In this form they advanced to our intrenchments, and then deployed into close column. When the nature of the ground would admit they again deployed into line, and in this manner advanced to the works. Colonel Putnam was one of the first to reach the parapet, surrounded by his brave New Hampshire 7th boys, and inspiring his whole brigade by his fearless, gallant conduct. In approaching the ditch the retreating men of the first charge were met, and some portions of the brigade were detained for a moment, but not permanently demoralized. Colonel Putnam sent Lieutenant-Colonel Abbott, of the 7th, and Major Henderson, his Adjutant-General, to intercept stragglers, rally those who halted, and hurry forward all troops. They did this under a very hot fire, which was as terrible a short distance from the fort as in it. The rear division of the 7th, and a portion of the 100th New York were massed together, crossed the ditch, and essayed to get a foothold inside from one point, while the 62nd and 67th Ohio went to another. Every regiment behaved nobly, and all have a fearful roll of casualties to attest the persistency and energy of their effort to obtain and hold the fort. One corner of the fort only was ours, and that was swept by grape and canister, and exposed to musketry. The troops looked back, saw they were alone, and began to falter. General Strong had been up, and cheered and rallied his quondom classmate and ever friend, Colonel Putnam, and returned to try and bring up reinforcements. Colonel Putnam implored, entreated, commanded his troops to hold on but a moment longer, and then another minute, and then a moment again, but no help came. He had sent a messenger to ask for reinforcements. He did not know that Generals Strong and Seymour had both been carried from the field wounded. The messenger learned the fact, and went to General Gillmore. The latter, anxious, but still cool and clear-headed, told him the reserve, a fresh brigade, had been ordered forward as soon as it was known a foothold had been gained in the rebel work. Before this messenger had left another arrived to say that Colonel Putnam was killed, and that our troops had retired from the fort entirely. That was the result, briefly told. General Stevenson's brigade was being conducted by Colonel Turner, of General Gillmore's staff, to reinforce Colonel Putnam, when the news of his death and the retirement of his troops reached them in season to prevent the whole rebel fire taking effect on them. Sadly and disappointed they turned back, and the battle-field was left to the enemy and our dead and wounded. The rebel fire ceased, the ambulances met the stretchers at the edge of danger, and the groans of the wounded, the chirps of the crickets, and the beating of the surf were soon all the sounds we could hear, for the fire on both sides had ceased. The rebels, too, had dead to bury and wounded to care for, and peace was to reign for a night, at least. Our fresh troops fell back to the intrenchments in good order, occupying all our old positions; and the shattered regiments rallied round their torn, burnt, and smoked standards, to go into camp, and call the names of the absent for ever. The loss of officers was found to be unusually large in proportion to the enlisted men. Colonel Putnam, the accomplished gentleman, had been instantly killed by a grapeshot in the head. General Seymour had received a painful wound in the foot from a grapeshot. Another, from the same discharge, passed through the breast of Lieutenant S. S. Stevens, his aid-de-camp. General Strong, while striving to rally stragglers, got a canister-shot through the thigh, making a severe but not fatal wound. His Adjutant-General, Lieutenant A. H. Libby, of the 3rd New Hampshire, a brave and efficient officer, was killed in the early part of the fight. Major Filleo, of the 55th Pennsylvania, a volunteer aid to General Strong, rushed once impetuously into the fort with the first comers, came back to the parapet and tried to get volunteers for a charge on a gun, and, wonderfully escaping death, was taken prisoner. Colonel Robert Shaw, of the Massachusetts 54th, was wounded, taken prisoner, and said to be dead. Lieutenant-Colonel Green, of the 48th New York, was mortally wounded, and died after being taken to Charleston. Colonel J. L. Chatfield, of the 6th Connecticut, lost a part of his right hand, and received a discharge of grape in his left leg, after performing prodigies of valour. Scarcely a field officer escaped wounds, and line officers fell by the score. In General Strong's brigade, Major J. I. Plympton, of his staff, was the only ranking officer able to do duty, and commanded the brigade a night and a day. I cannot speak too highly of the admirable arrangements for the wounded. The wounded, in an unexpectedly large number, were as promptly as possible removed on stretchers and in ambulances to the main hospital, near Lighthouse Inlet, either directly or by easy stages. Those dangerously wounded were temporarily attended to at intermediate hospitals, where temporary relief was afforded. By morning nearly every wounded man had been removed to one of the hospital boats, and was on his way to the fine hospitals at Hilton Head and Beaufort. A few wounded ones, too much hurt to be heard and too much hidden to be found in the darkness, remained on the ground till morning. Yesterday Dr. Craven reported officially to General Gillmore that the whole number of wounded which had passed through his hands on the island was 625. Some of our wounded, as well as dead, fell into the hands of the enemy. Early on Tuesday morning burial parties, by permission of the enemy, went down to bury our dead, outside the rebel works. The bodies had to be interred uncoffined, without being identified; but such are the fortunes of war. Several rebel officers came out of the fort during the burying, and conversed with the officers in charge of our parties. They complimented our troops in the highest manner. They said their charges were so determined and vigorous that it was almost impossible to stand before them. At one time they anticipated being driven from the fort. When the fight commenced on the 10th they scarcely expected to hold the fort all day; but now they said they intended to keep possession of it. They were very bitter on the negro troops, and said such as they had captured would be sold at auction. On Sunday morning Lieutenant-Colonel Abbott went down with a flag of truce, having learnt that Colonel Putnam was positively dead, and made arrangements for his body to be forwarded. He received some letters which had been taken from Colonel Putnam's person. A body was disinterred, and sent down to the camp of the 7th New Hampshire, but it proved afterwards not to be Colonel Putnam's, although there was a most striking resemblance, which doubtless led to the error. The body was not identified, and at night was buried on a land bluff. It will probably be impossible to recover Colonel Putnam's body. On Monday, Lieutenant Bee, who was captured by us, severely wounded, in the engagement of the 10th, died in our hospital. Last evening Dr. Craven, chief medical officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Hull, provost-marshal, and General Vogdes, went with a flag of truce to return the body. They were met first by Captain Tracey, and afterwards by General Heygood and Colonel Cates, formerly member of Congress. They had a very pleasing interview, and talked quite freely on some points. "We intend to be a great nation yet," said they. "We think we can live without you; but you show your weakness by declaring you cannot live without us." That was their principal point. They also complained about the negro soldiers, urging that it was unchivalrous to send negroes to fight gentlemen. One important result of the interview was a mutual agreement for the general exchange of wounded prisoners. The Cosmopolitan will take up the wounded rebels to a point near Fort Sumter, and there be met by a rebel steamer with our wounded on board, when an exchange will take place. Sunday was a very quiet day. Both sides were very busily engaged with humane occupation, burying dead, taking care of wounded, and recovering from the fight. On Monday there was a bombardment of Wagner by the gunboats and batteries. On Tuesday a little cannonading was done, but we had no casualties. The rebels have built three large batteries on James Island, and with one of them they on Tuesday opened an enfilading fire on our works. Traverses were speedily erected. There were no casualties."

Respecting the attack on the defences of Charleston we have the following despatches:—

"Charleston, July 18, 6 p.m.

"The Ironsides, five Monitors, four gun and mortar boats, two land batteries (five guns), have fired furiously all day on Battery Wagner. Four killed, fourteen wounded, and one guncarriage disabled.

"G. T. BEAUREGARD.

"General S. Cooper."

"Charleston, July 19, 3·40 a.m.

"After a furious bombardment of eleven hours from the ships and shore, throwing many thousands of shot and shell, the enemy assaulted Battery Wagner desperately and repeatedly, beginning at dark. Our people fought worthily, and repulsed the attacks with great slaughter. A number of prisoners were captured. Our loss is relatively slight. It includes, however, valuable lives. Brigadier-General Taliaferro commands on our side. Pickets now well in advance. God is again with us.

"General S. Cooper. "G. T. BEAUREGARD."

"Charleston, July 23.

"The enemy recommenced shelling again yesterday with but few casualties on our part. We had, in the battle of the 18th instant, about 150 killed and wounded. The enemy's loss, including prisoners, was about 2000. Nearly 800 were buried under a flag of truce. Colonel Putnam, acting Brigadier-General, and Colonel Shaw, commanding the negro regiment, were killed.

"G. T. BEAUREGARD, General."

The *Charleston Mercury* of the 20th ultimo contains the following account of the assault on Fort Wagner:

"Saturday last was a day which will be for ever memorable in the history of Charleston. The heavy rains had moderated the excessive heat of the preceding fortnight; the morning sky was cloudless, and the light breeze scarcely ruffled the placid waters of the harbour. About 8 o'clock the desultory cannonade with which the experience of a week had made our community familiar was again heard. For nearly three hours the enemy's fire was maintained with the usual deliberation, but about 11 o'clock it was noticed that the reports came in far more rapid succession. By noon it became well understood that the foe was resolved to subject our position to an ordeal much more severe than any which, up to that time, it had encountered. At that hour, as we learn by accounts from Morris Island, the converging fire of the enemy against the battery had become truly fearful. Five Monitors, the frigate Ironsides, seven wooden gunboats, with the land batteries which the Yankees had thrown up on the lower part of the island, kept up a constant rain of shot and shell into our works. No less than sixty-five heavy guns and eight mortars are known to have been in play against us. At one time, so rapid was the fire, that the reports averaged twenty-seven per minute. One of the Monitors lay north-east of Battery Wagner, and two to the south-east while the others, with the Ironsides, kept a position nearly opposite the sea face of the battery. The wooden gun-boats manœuvred at some distance outside the line of turreted monsters, relying chiefly upon their long-ranged rifled siege guns. There were two Yankee batteries on Morris Island—one consisting of two guns and a mortar was located at Craig's-hill, within about 800 yards of our battery; the other was beyond Graham's house, and had an armament of eight rifled shell guns. It is estimated that during the day no less than 9000 shells were fired at the battery. The bombardment, as viewed from the city, was a grand, terrible sight. The horizon, from Fort Moultrie to Vinegar Hill, was crowned with the shifting masses of the smoke of the conflict. Each moment the enemy's shells, sometimes singly, sometimes in clusters, could be seen bursting just above the sight of Battery Wagner; but when, at intervals, the clouds of white smoke lifted for a time from the scene, the flag of the brave garrison could be seen still waving defiantly in the breeze, while with grim regularity and deliberation our guns kept replying to the foe. For eleven consecutive hours the bombardment raged with more or less violence. About dusk the fire, which during the afternoon had been incessant (probably with the design of demoralising our men and unfitting them for the expected night's work,) began to slacken considerably, and at dark ceased almost entirely. The results thus far had been of a character to give us good cause for encouragement and gratulation. The damage to our battery was insignificant, and of a kind easily and speedily reparable. The bombproofs had afforded efficient protection to a large proportion of the garrison, and our casualties at seven o'clock p.m. were but four killed and fourteen wounded. Of the enemy's losses from our fire, if any, we have, of course, no trustworthy account. Fort Sumter, which bore a part in the action, sent several shells into the Craig's hill batteries, and also into the camp of the enemy, about three miles and a quarter distant, it is believed with good effect. At a few minutes before eight o'clock our pickets gave notice that the enemy, in heavy force, was moving to the assault. The attack was not unexpected, and our men, though much jaded by the fatigues and exposure of the day, sprang to their places with zeal and alacrity. The enemy advanced in two columns of about 3000 men each, the whole under command of Brigadier-General Strong. The column which attacked our right was composed partially of negro troops, who were put in the advance. On our left the other columns advanced with spirit under a severe fire from the Dahlgren guns and columbiads from Fort Sumter. As the column advanced at the double quick the guns of Battery Wagner also opened. When the enemy had reached a point about sixty yards distant our infantry, posted behind the parapet, poured a galling fire into the moving masses; the Yankees, nevertheless, in considerable force succeeded in gaining the trench, and began to clamber up the sides of the battery. At this moment Lieutenant Waties, of Blake's battery, who was in charge of two brass howitzers (belonging to a detachment of artillery under Captain de Pass, of White's battalion) opened a raking fire which swept the trench, playing terrific havoc in the ranks of the assailants. The howitzers had been assigned to this position, which they occupied so advantageously for us, at the instance of Colonel Harris, of the Engineers, all the horses belonging to the section having been put *hors de combat* during the day. Twice the enemy was driven back at this part of our works (the left), and the trench, filled with the enemy's dead, attests the severity of the conflict there. On the right the negro troops were met with a terrible cross fire of musketry. Here were posted, among other troops, the Charleston battalion, and these gallant men behaved in a manner worthy the fame their organisation had so dearly won at Secessionville. The second assault was still more desperate than the first; but it was met and repelled in the same gallant style by the brave troops—Georgians, North Carolinians, and sons of our own city, who stood shoulder to shoulder in the fight. In the centre of our lines a small body of the enemy succeeded in gaining a lodgment in a salient, the gun of which had been disabled. Here they maintained their position for more than an hour. A gallant but unsuccessful attempt was made to dislodge them, in which Captain Ryan fell, and it was not until a small force of Georgians had ascended the magazine, and thus gained a position to command the salient, that the audacious Yankees surrendered. At the time that this occurred the firing elsewhere had ceased, and the Georgians accomplished their purpose without firing a gun. The movement by which this was effected was undertaken at the suggestion of Colonel Harris. The fight lasted from eight until eleven p.m., and was of a desperate character throughout. The enemy's losses were very heavy. His killed and wounded must have been at least 1500. The number of his dead left on the field, and buried by us yesterday, exceeded 600. We captured over 200 prisoners, including a few of the negro troops. Our own losses were comparatively light. It is estimated that our killed and wounded will not exceed 100."

WESLEYAN TEA AND PUBLIC MEETING.—On Monday evening, a tea meeting was held in the Wesleyan schoolroom, West Maitland. Between three and four hundred persons partook of the cheering beverage kindly provided by ladies of the congregation. After tea, the company adjourned to the church, where a public meeting was held. At the close of the meeting, a collection was made, and a sum of £63 was obtained as the result of the evening's proceedings, including £26 from the tea meeting.—*Maitland Mercury.*

Department of Public Works
Sydney, 27th October, 1863

TENDERS for PUBLIC WORKS and SUPPLIES.—Tenders are invited for the following Public Works and Supplies. For full particulars see *Government Gazette*, a file of which is kept at every Police Office in the colony.

No tender will be taken into consideration, unless the terms of the notice be strictly complied with.

Nature of Works and Supplies.	Date to which Tenders can be received at this Office.
Great Southern Railway—Extension from Picton to Goulburn. Completion of Contract No. 3.	12 o'clock noon, on Tuesday, 3rd November.
Great Northern Railway—Extension Singleton towards Armidale. Completion of Contract No. 1 Tank, &c., Gaol, Armidale	
Great Southern Railway—Extension from Picton to Goulburn. Contract No. 6	12 o'clock noon, on Tuesday, 10th November.
Windsor and Richmond Railway—Permanent Way.—Blacktown to South Creek and South Creek to Richmond	
Court-house and Lockup, Wentworth.	12 o'clock noon, on Tuesday, 24th Nov.

ARTHUR T. HOLROYD.

AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT (LIFE ASSURANCE) SOCIETY.
Money to lend on mortgage of city or suburban real property, on terms which borrowers will find peculiarly desirable.
For particulars apply at the principal office.
ROBERT THOMSON, actuary and secretary.
Principal Office, Hunter-st., Sydney, August 1st.

AUSTRALASIAN FIRE, LIFE, and MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.
Head Office: Hall of Commerce, Melbourne.
Possessing an accumulated reserve fund but amounts to upwards of £60,000.
FIRE DEPARTMENT.
First-class risks are taken at rates of premium varying from 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.
MARINE DEPARTMENT.
Policies effected at lowest current rates, and losses made payable in Sydney, Melbourne, or London, at option of assurer.
This Company is favourably known in the colonies for its extreme promptitude in the settlement of all claims.
The undersigned having been appointed agents in Sydney, are now prepared to insure every description of Fire or Marine risk.
MONTEFIORE and MONTEFIORE.
Exchange Corner.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.—This company continues to grant POLICIES of Insurance against fire on woolsheds and on wool therein, for long or short periods, at the current rates of premium.
A. STANGER LEATHES, resident secretary.
Wynyard-square.

THE COLONIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
(Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.)
Capital, £1,000,000
Accumulated Funds, £450,000.
Head Offices, London and Edinburgh.
Sydney Office, 325, George-street.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN SYDNEY.
RICHARD JONES, Esq., Chairman
JOHN DE V. LAMB, Esq. | F. H. DANGAR, Esq.
Medical Adviser, Dr. J. C. COX.
Solicitors, Messrs. DUNSMURE and STAFFORD.
Prospectuses, table of rates, &c., can be obtained at the Office, 325, George-street.
WILLIAM RAE, agent.
Sydney, 16th October, 1863.

UNITED FIRE and MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY of SYDNEY.—This Company grants Policies of Insurance against fire on woolsheds and wool contained therein, for any term, at moderate rates of premium.
WILLIAM RAE, Manager.
325, George-street, October 1863.

TO THE ELECTORS OF ORANGE.—GENTLEMEN,—By my acceptance of office, the seat to which you did me the distinguished honour of spontaneously electing me, has become vacant. I am, therefore, now a candidate for re-election, and shall, at the earliest moment possible, afford myself the pleasure of thanking you in person for your past confidence, and at the same time asking for your approval of the course which I have hitherto pursued as your representative.
I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
JAMES MARTIN.
Sydney, 19th October.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE ELECTORATE OF YASS PLAINS.—GENTLEMEN,—My acceptance of the office of Solicitor-General has rendered my seat in the Legislative Assembly vacant. I now offer myself as a candidate for re-election, and thus afford you an opportunity of expressing your approval or disapproval of the course I have taken in accepting office as a Minister of the Crown.
I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient and faithful servant,
P. FAUCETT.
Elizabeth-street North, Sydney.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTHERN GOLD-FIELDS.
GENTLEMEN,—In consequence of your late member Dr. Wilson having accepted office under the new Administration, I beg to offer myself as a candidate for the representation of your electorate.
My opinions on the most important questions of the day are well known to most of you, but lest there may be some amongst you who are unacquainted with my political tenets I will briefly recapitulate them.
I am a thorough and uncompromising advocate for the retention of State-aid to religion. I advocate the appropriating of all moneys received from the sale of Church and School lands to the maintenance of religion and education in this colony. I am a strenuous supporter of the system of education as set forth by the Privy Council with a few amendments.
The limits of an advertisement preclude me from entering into further details, but I shall take an early opportunity of personally laying before you my political programme in extenso.
Soliciting your support,
I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
FREDERICK A. COOPER.
Araluen, 24th October.

PURSUANT to an order of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in its Equitable Jurisdiction in a cause wherein PATRICK MURNANE is plaintiff and OWEN MURNANE is defendant bearing date the third day of April A.D. 1860 the next of kin of WILLIAM MURNANE formerly of Swallow Creek in the colony of New South Wales farmer deceased who died in the month of October 1852 or the personal representatives of such next of kin are to come in and prove their kinship before the Master in Equity of the said Court at his office at the Supreme Court House King-street Sydney otherwise they will be excluded the benefit of the said order.
Dated this seventh day of May A.D. 1863.
GEORGE HIBBERT DEFFELL Master in Equity.
HENRY BURTON BRADLEY, plaintiff's solicitor, 64, Margaret-street, Sydney.

IN THE SUPREME COURT of New South Wales.—NOTICE is hereby given, that HENRY DEANE, of O'Connell-street, Sydney, lately serving under articles of clerkship to Mr. William Deane, one of the attorneys of this Honorable Court, intends to apply on the last day of the now next ensuing term, for admission as an ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, and PROCTOR of the said Court.
Dated this third day of October, A.D. 1863
HENRY DEANE.

IN THE SUPREME COURT of New South Wales.—NOTICE is hereby given that I, ROBERT BURDETT SMITH, of Hunter-street, in the City of Sydney, in the colony of New South Wales, lately serving under articles of clerkship to WILLIAM ROBERTS, of York-street, in the said city, gentleman, an attorney, solicitor, and proctor of the honorable the Supreme Court of New South Wales, intend to apply, on the last day of the present term, to be admitted an ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, and PROCTOR of the said Court.
Dated this twenty-eighth day of October, A.D. 1863.
ROBERT BURDETT SMITH.

NOTICE is hereby given that I, ALBERT WHITBY SIMPSON, of Maitland, in the colony of New South Wales, lately serving under articles of clerkship to the late Robert Browning Minter, late of Maitland aforesaid, deceased, and by assignment thereof to Joseph O'Meagher, of Maitland, one of the attorneys of the Supreme Court, intend to apply, in the last day of the present term, to be admitted an Attorney, Solicitor, and Proctor of the said Court.
A. W. SIMPSON.
28th October, 1863.

NOTICE IS HEREBY G

FAMILY and General MOURNING. HITCHCOCK, HARDIE, and BUZACOTT.

FROM ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD, LONDON. —New goods opening every morning, in shawls, mantles, jackets, millinery, underclothing, fancy dresses, and a profusion of fancy goods; also the remaining drapery stock of O'Donnell, Bate, and Co, now selling out on favourable terms to cash buyers.
HITCHCOCK, HARDIE, and BUZACOTT, George-street

LAW.

SUPREME COURT.—THURSDAY.

SITTINGS IN BANCO.

BEFORE the full Court.

JUDGMENT.

THE QUEEN v. ADAMS.

Sir Alfred Stephen, C. J., delivered the judgment of the Court herein as follows:—

The defendant in this case has been convicted at the Sydney Quarter Sessions, of having kept and maintained a common gaming-house, and there for gain caused persons to play at an unlawful game called roulette.

The place was in fact a single room of canvas, forming the back compartment of a tent, erected on or near the Sydney Race-course, and kept only during the time of the races. The front room or compartment was kept by a publican, and the only entrance to the back room was through this front one; although, after the entry by the constables on the day laid in the indictment, some persons in the back room escaped from it to the rear, through openings in the canvas. On the previous day the defendant was seen presiding at, and conducting, a roulette wheel in that back apartment, and taking up money laid on coloured pieces of cloth by the players, or occasionally paying money to such of them as won. He had a cash box before him, or at his side; and into or from that box, the moneys in question were deposited or taken respectively. On the day of the arrest, the defendant was found standing in front of that wheel, with the cashbox on a table; and, on the constable's seizing it, he claimed the box as his property. A few moments before entering, one of the constables heard some person in the back apartment, (not proved to be the defendant, but whose voice resembled and was believed to be the defendant's) offering to bet on one of the colours, and a marble was heard to fall in the roulette wheel.

Upon these facts, the questions submitted for our opinion are the following. First, whether the place described can be deemed a common gaming-house. Secondly, whether there was sufficient evidence that the defendant kept and maintained it. Thirdly, whether there was evidence of any playing at an unlawful game, on the second day—being the one relied on for the prosecution. And, on all these questions, our opinion is against the defendant, whose conviction is therefore sustained.

As to the first. It is enacted by the Gaming Act of 1859 (the 14 Victoria No. 9, section 2), that every house, room, or place kept or *used* for playing at any unlawful game, and wherein a bank is kept by one or more of the players (including among these the person by whom the game is managed), shall be deemed a "common gaming-house or place for gaming," such as is contrary to law and forbidden by all enactments "against unlawful games or gaming-houses." Now the room or apartment in this case, in which the defendant was seen on the two days spoken of, appears to us to answer exactly this description. It was "used" certainly on the first of these days, and by reasonable inference on the second also, for playing at the game of roulette—which, by the 18 George 2 chapter 34, is expressly declared to be an unlawful game. And a bank, within the statutory meaning of the term, was in that apartment kept by the defendant, who then and there was undoubtedly managing the game at which persons were in the act of playing, or had been playing, on the second occasion, and were actually seen playing on the first. The room in question was, therefore, by the first-mentioned enactment, a common *place* for gaming, if it was not strictly and literally a "Common gaming-house." But we are of opinion that it was substantially a gaming-house—within the plain sense and meaning of the words as used in this indictment. The essence of the offence, which is one by the common law, on account of the evil tendencies and consequences of gaming, and the assembling together of persons for that purpose, cannot consist in the keeping of a "house," as distinguished from a "room" for gaming.

The offence is described in the books, certainly, and the indictment in this case, as that of keeping a *gaming house*; but evidence that the person kept a room, or other place for gaming, within or forming part of a house, or other building, will clearly sustain the charge. If the law were otherwise, this absurdity would follow, first, that the offence could never be committed if the place were not strictly a house, properly so called, as distinguished from any other building—and secondly, that the place kept must be the whole house and not some room, passage, or portion merely of the house. That the entire place was a tent, in other words an erection construed of canvas, instead of more durable materials, and that it was not a permanent dwelling, but intended for removal after a short period, and therefore occupied temporarily only, are in our opinion arguments of little weight—for the reasons already given. A house kept or used for gaming we need hardly observe, is not necessarily a dwelling-house.

On the second of the questions reserved, it is sufficient to say that the evidence was ample, in our opinion, to establish the fact that the defendant kept and maintained this gaming-house. A temporary keeping such as was shown here, is sufficient, and he who keeps, *maintains* a gaming-house. There is no independent value in the additional word. The evils of such a place are obviously the same, except in degree, whether kept for two days, or for two weeks, or a longer period. And the defendant undoubtedly kept the place, in point of fact, as its owner or manager, on both the days spoken of. There was at all events evidence for the jury, to show that he did so. The case relied on for the defendant, of Shutt v. Lewis, in 5 Esp. 128, is clearly distinguishable from the present. The defendant there, who was charged with having kept a room for dancing without a license, was landlord of the house; and the evidence was merely this—that he knew of the intended purpose, but had let the room bona fide to a third person, for the entertainment during eight days of the hirer's friends exclusively, and had himself no further share or interest in the matter.

Lastly, as to the evidence of playing on the second of the two days. According to Mr. Justice Holroyd, in The King v. Rogier, 1 B and C. 275, the keeping of a common gaming-house being the offence, the allegation that persons actually played there is superfluous. See also Mason's case, 1 Leach C. C. 492; judgment of Mr. Justice Grose. But there was here sufficient evidence for the jury, we think, that there was playing at an unlawful game on the second day. If playing at all took place on that day, the reasonable inference is that the game was the unlawful one of roulette; for the same implements, which had been seen in use on the previous day, during the actual playing of that game, were in the room on the day following. And no other rational conclusion could have been arrived at, coupling all this with other evidence, than that, just before the time of the entry by the police, play was in fact going on there. In the case of the King v. Liston, 5 P. R. 340, the charge was that the defendant, on a stated day, set up the game of hazard, to be played *with dice*. The only evidence as to that day was, that the defendant acted as master or keeper of the hazard table, at which persons were then playing, but how the game was played, whether with dice or otherwise, did not appear. It was proved, however, that, on the following day, there were dice and a dice box on the table, apparently for the purposes of play—but no playing was actually seen, as the persons assembled discontinued their occupation on the witness's entrance. It was held that the Justices (it being a case of summary conviction) were not confined to the circumstances of the stated day; and that, from the evidence as to the dice and box, seen on the second day, they were warranted in concluding that the game of hazard was played on that day—and the conviction was accordingly sustained.

NEW TRIAL MOTION.

HICKEY V. MAYO.

This was a motion for new trial of an issue out of the Supreme Court, which had been tried at Maitland before Mr. District Justice Purefoy. The action was for a balance of rent. The question was whether the rent of a part of the property had been reduced by Mr. Edwin Hickey, the brother and agent of the plaintiff Allan Hickey. Besides a denial of the fact there was a denial of the power, as agent, to make any such reduction. Both the plaintiff and his brother swore that the latter had no such power. The defendant's evidence on this point was flatly contradictory by that for plaintiff as to the agreement to reduce. The jury found for the plaintiff. The grounds of the application were that the Judge had improperly rejected certain evidence tendered in proof of a ratification by Allan Hickey of his brother's acting as his agent; also evidence tendered in contradiction of Mr. Edwin Hickey; and that he had misdirected the jury in telling them that there was no evidence of agency.

Mr. Butler appeared in support of the motion, and Mr. Darley in support of the verdict.

The evidence tendered and rejected went to show a confirmation by plaintiff of his brother's letting to defendant of a piece of land on which the claim for rent was partly founded. But it was with regard to another property that the reduction was said to have been agreed to by Edwin Hickey. The contradiction sought to have been given to E. Hickey was that he had made some different statement as to the reduction of the rent.

Their Honors sustained the verdict. The ratification of the letting by Hickey of a particular piece of land, was no evidence of his having ratified a reduction of rent of another property, in the face of the denial by both brothers that any agency so to reduce had ever been created or exercised. The evidence to contradict the witness ought to have been admitted, but if admitted, could not have changed the result. For if Edwin Hickey had no agency to reduce the rent, no statement of his to the contrary would bind the plaintiff. The rule was therefore discharged, with costs.

DEMURRER

CAMPBELL V. DENT.

This was a demurrer to the defendant's plea in an action of trespass. The trespass declared upon was an entry upon plaintiff's land, and cutting down his trees, &c. The cutting of timber was the substantial ground of action. The defendant had pleaded in justification that in the grant of the land whereon this trespass was said to have been committed, there was a reservation to the Crown (among other things) of all "indigenous timber" for naval or public purposes, and that the defendant had taken the timber under this reservation for public purposes—*i. e.*, for the making of a public road. The plea was demurred to upon various grounds. The material points raised were whether this, although styled a reservation, was not really an exception; whether any indigenous timber was excepted but such as was growing on the land at the time of the grant; whether this exception or reservation was not void for uncertainty; whether it ought not necessarily to appear on the plea that this was taken for a public road belonging to the Crown; and whether this reserved power of taking timber, if really existent, was one that could be delegated to other persons than actual officers of the Crown, which defendant did not declare himself to be.

Sir William Manning, Q.C., appeared in support of the demurrer, and Mr. Sheppard in support of the plea.

The Court reserved judgment.

Before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Wise.

DISTRICT COURT APPEAL.

ALLEN V. WHYTE.

This was an appeal from the Maitland District Court in a case tried by Judge Purefoy.

Mr. Milford appeared in support of the appeal, and Mr. Butler in support of the District Court Judge.

Mr. Butler took a preliminary objection to the hearing of this case, upon the ground that the special case had not, as required by the rules, been settled by the District Court Judge.

Their Honors overruled this objection, holding that, as the case had been stated in the term paper for argument, the respondent ought, if relying upon any such objection as this as a ground against its being heard, to have made it the subject of a specific motion, on notice to strike the case out of such paper.

The action was upon an alleged breach of contract for the sale at auction by defendant of certain horses, belonging to plaintiff, at a place some thirty miles from Newcastle. The plaintiff had taken his horses to the place in question, but it rained during the whole of the appointed day, and the day after. The defendant did not come, and the plaintiff sold the horses himself at a loss. A nonsuit was moved for upon the ground that no consideration had been made out, but the Judge refused to nonsuit, acting upon his own judicial knowledge that the defendant was an auctioneer, and that auctioneers charged commission. One question raised by the present appeal was whether or not the Judge had a right to act upon any such assumption. The Judge had also, after the close of plaintiff's case, admitted in evidence a Newcastle newspaper containing an advertisement of the sale of these horses purporting to have emanated from the defendant. The question as to this matter was whether such newspaper was admissible at that time and without direct evidence of defendant having authorised the advertisement. The Judge therefore found a verdict for plaintiff with £40 damages.

Their Honors refused to nonsuit, but directed a new trial upon the grounds taken in the appeal, respondent to pay the costs.

INSOLVENCY COURT.

THURSDAY.

BEFORE the Chief Commissioner.

In the matter of the insolvency of William James Love, his Honor delivered judgment on the application of a creditor to supersede the sequestration. Sequestration set aside.

In the matter of Glass v. Keogh, Mr. Milford moved that the rule nisi be made absolute. Mr. Gordon opposed the application on the ground that a former order of sequestration still remains in force. Mr. Milford, in reply, argued that a rule of Mr. Justice Milford dismissed that sequestration. His Honor said that the order made on the 27th November, 1861, by his Honor Mr. Justice Milford, for the discharge of the rule nisi under Mr. Keogh's former insolvency, upon the payment of Mr. Sempill's costs, expenses, and remuneration (if any) therein, is an order which his Honor had full power to make, and is not an order with such a condition annexed as prevents a creditor like Mr. Glass, whose demand subsequently arose, from proceeding now to make Mr. Keogh again insolvent—the more so as there is nothing to show that Mr. Sempill had incurred or claimed or is in part entitled to any costs, expenses, or remuneration under that insolvency. On the contrary, in his (the Chief Commissioner's) opinion, Mr. Glass is in a position to proceed to make Mr. Keogh insolvent, notwithstanding any provision in that order. The only question is one of an indebtedness sufficient to support the present application for a second insolvency. Mr. Keogh has filed a bill in Equity, the object of which is to show, on the taking of proper accounts there, that the indebtedness is not on his side but on the side of Mr. Glass; and, undoubtedly, such questions of account can be better determined in Equity than in Insolvency; but the Primary Judge in Equity has already refused an application made by Mr. Keogh in that suit for an injunction to restrain Mr. Glass from his present proceeding in Insolvency, and there is no security or guarantee that Mr. Keogh will now continue to prosecute that suit to final decree, or at all. It would be improper, therefore, to delay adjudicating upon this case on the ground of the mere existence or bare pendency of that suit, and as Mr. Glass has obtained a judgment at law in a large amount against Mr. Keogh, he (the Chief Commissioner) must now make absolute the rule nisi previously granted by him.

On the motion of Mr. Milford, the rule nisi in the matter of Bergin and others v. Robert Eagles, was made absolute; a copy of the order to be posted on defendant's last known place of residence.

On the motion of Mr. Meymott, John Davidson was ordered to pay £7 per month from his salary.

A rule nisi was granted, on the motion of Mr. Meymott, in the matter of John Smith, requiring Margaret Hay M'Farlane to show cause why an attachment should not issue, for disobeying an order to pay costs.

Plans of distribution in the following estates were confirmed, on the motion of Mr. Sempill:—

Robert Drews, 4½d. in the pound.
Francis Donovan, 1ll 1·16d. in the pound.
Henry Wheeler, 1s 9½d in the pound.
Gabriel Nixon, 3s. 3 5-16d. in the pound.
John Shepherd, 3s. 2½d. in the pound.

And on the motion of Mr. Mackenzie:—

William Ley, 2s. 10¼d in the pound.
Gilbert Wright, 6 5 16d. in the pound.
Daniel Phillips, 1s. 9½d. in the pound.

In the estate of Charles Browne, an adjourned single meeting. Insolvent was examined by Mr Garrick for a creditor.

SURRENDERS.

Edward Birmingham, of Illawarra, dealer. Liabilities, £700 0s. 6d. Assets, £548 7s. 6d. Deficit, £151 13s. Mr. Morris, official assignee.

John Williams, of Sofala, barman. Liabilities, £360 3s. Assets, £14 5s. Deficit, £345 18s. Mr. Mackenzie, official assignee.

George Michie Robertson, of Wallsend, Newcastle, storekeeper. Liabilities, £705 15s. 2½d. Assets, £855 8s. 6d. Surplus, £29 13s. 3d. Mr. Morris, official assignee.

MEETINGS OF CREDITORS.

Friday, October 30.—John Young, Matthew Hill, Tom D. Mackenzie, single. William Marks, postponed third. Isaac Moss, Thomas Hale, first.

CENTRAL POLICE COURT.

THURSDAY.

BEFORE the Mayor and the Police Magistrate, with Messrs. Birrell, Levey, Brown, and Peden.

Ten prisoners were brought before the Court. Nine were discharged and one was remanded.

The summons paper consisted of twenty-six cases, of which three were struck out for want of prosecution, two were dismissed, two were postponed, and nine were withdrawn. The City Solicitor prosecuted in the following cases:—Oatley v. Barton, was a prosecution by the inspector of slaughter houses, for slaughtering in premises which are not nor have been licensed for that purpose; and the defendant being convicted thereof was fined 40s. Robert Bunting was fined 40s., on the complaint of the inspector of nuisances, for having allowed the contents of a watercloset to soak out and to become a nuisance to the neighbourhood. Michael M'Mahon was fined 1s. for a similar offence. Seven persons were prosecuted by the inspector of carriages plying for hire, for violations of either the by-laws or the Police Act, and being convicted were fined—three 10s. each, three 20s. each, and one (for endangering public safety by furious driving) 40s. In the case last named the defendant was ordered to pay, besides the ordinary costs of court, 10s. 6d. professional costs, which Mr. Driver, with his usual liberality, directed to be paid into the poor-box.

NOTE.—We understand that Margaret Abbey, who was yesterday sentenced at this court to be imprisoned two months for a misdemeanour, was recalled after the adjournment of the court, and discharged with an admonition.

LAW PROCEEDINGS THIS DAY.

SUPREME COURT.

MOTIONS, &c.—Jane O'Driscoll, habeas corpus, part heard; Ex parte Gibbes, prohibition; ditto Winchcombe, ditto; ditto Glover ditto.

DEMURRERS AND SPECIAL CASES.—Carter v. Kenyon, defendant's demurrer; Carter v. Kenyon, plaintiff's demurrer; Smith v. M'Guigan, demurrer; Munoz v. Davies, special case; Neaids v. Rae, appeal case Metropolitan and Coast District Court; Boggs v. Hickey, appeal case, Maitland.

IN EQUITY—MOTIONS AND PETITIONS.—Armstrong v. Holledge, motion for decree; Glasscock v. Foreman, exceptions; Ross v. Sherwin, hearing.

MASTER'S OFFICE.—Brown v. Carrigan, discharge; re Buckley, receiver's account; Kearney v. Davis, to consider decree; Dight v. Gordon, to consider order; Ritchie v. Price, to proceed on abstract; Ryan v. M'Guigan, report of sale.

RAILWAYS AND RAILWAY CONTRACTORS.

To the Editor of the Herald.

SIR,—I was surprised to see your editorial remarks on Mr. Watkins' very sensible, though somewhat egotistical, letter on railway contractors in general and himself in particular; and, as from what has come under my own observation, I consider these remarks unjust, I trust you will allow me space to state my reasons for so thinking.

My business takes me very frequently along the Western Road, parallel to which the railway runs through the mountains, so that any one travelling by coach or otherwise may see the works almost the whole way; and having been a good deal connected with public works in my time, I naturally, from habit, as I pass, take an interest in the progress of this line, and I cannot concur with your statement that of all the contractors in the Railway department Mr. Watkins is alone carrying out his contract satisfactorily, and fancy you must be labouring under a mistake which many travellers along this road fall into, that the whole of the line from the Nepean to Blackheath is Mr. Watkins' contract, whilst in reality twelve miles of the centre, the heaviest of the work, where you see those large gangs of men so systematically arranged, with waggons, tramways, and all the most modern appliances for economising and facilitating labour, is Messrs. Duxbury and Kerr's contract, superintended by Mr. Duxbury himself, a man perhaps the most experienced in the construction of railways in the colony. Surely there can be nothing unsatisfactory in the progress of this section, and certainly, as far as I may judge, nothing whatever to prevent them completing their contract within the specified time, if they continue to go on as they are doing. It is this portion of the line that usually attracts the attention of the traveller, from its deep cuts, high embankments, and busy crowds of workmen;—which elicits the remark of, "how rapidly these heavy works are progressing;" and which, I shrewdly guess, has erroneously procured for Mr. Watkins the meed of praise he so modestly considers his right. Not but that his contracts are progressing well enough, although, from his system of subletting all his cuttings, the numerous but small desultory bits of men engaged on them do not present that formidable and businesslike appearance which the contract I refer to does. However, Sir, there is not such hurry wanted for these works as you seem to imagine. The whole three sections will be finished long ere they can be required, unless the trains are brought across the Nepean in a punt; for there is but little sign of a bridge yet.

There may, and no doubt there is, great dilatoriness on other portions of our railway contracts, though I cannot help thinking it is greatly exaggerated; and these evils will always occur under the present system. But that the charge can with justice be made against all railway contractors, except Mr. Watkins, is at least not the opinion of

Bus Hotel, Eighteen Mile Hollow, October 28. A TRAVELLER.

To the Editor of the Herald.

SIR,—In your leader of to-day, the following sentence occurs in which my name is mentioned in a manner that I think facts don't justify. Speaking of the debate in the Assembly in which Mr. Alexander Campbell, then the representative of the Williams, charged the Government of that day with presenting "cooked" accounts to the House, you state—"So strongly was the opinion or sentiment of the Government expressed, that one of the Ministers told Mr. Campbell to his face that, having made these charges, and having made them without foundation, the Ministry would use their utmost power to prevent him ever again obtaining a seat in that august assembly. This was no idle threat. The Ministry was then in the full career of its popularity, in the full tide of its party corruption, and Mr. Robertson's influence at the Hunter and at the Williams succeeded in defeating Mr. Campbell, and adding to the Legislative Assembly the talents of Mr. W. B. Allen and Mr. Sadleir—both then, not now, supporters of the Cowper Administration. Such is the ingratitude of men." I deny that either Mr. Robertson, or any other member of the Cowper Administration, directly or indirectly, so far as I ever knew, took any part in contributing to my return for the Williams. I deny that either in or out of the Assembly, I ever was a supporter of the financial policy of the Cowper Administration—I deny that I owe gratitude in any shape, form, or kind for my seat in the Assembly to the Cowper Administration. I deny that the defeat of Mr. Campbell was in any way attributable to the part he took, or the speech he made, at the time in question; or to any other cause than his expressed and acknowledged political opinions.

The first time I offered myself for election for Sydney, Mr. Cowper stated at a public meeting that he entirely disagreed with my political sentiments, yet I stood the contest, and was defeated. The next time was for East Sydney, Mr. Cowper's committee scratched my name off their ticket; yet I stood the contest, and was defeated.

The third time was for the Lower Hunter; to save defeat I withdrew, and Mr. Windeyer defeated Captain Williamson, who was supported by the Cowper Administration.

The fourth time, I was requested by the electors of the Williams. I contested with Mr. Campbell, and was defeated by thirteen votes.

The fifth time, I again offered battle for the Williams to Mr. Campbell; he did not accept the offer, and I was returned without a contest.

Every one of these elections was contested on purely protection principles, and little else. These principles the Cowper Administration repudiated to the last, and my vote on purely protection principles was, to a great extent, the means of ousting them.

It will be seen how very little grounds exist for charging Mr. Robertson with the crime of "adding to the Legislative Assembly the talents of Mr. W. B. Allen."

Yours, &c.,
W. B. ALLEN.

28th October.

To the Editor of the Herald.

SIR,—To your correspondent, "Constant Reader," the public will ever owe a debt of deep gratitude for his clever idea for scouring the interior (more particularly the vicinity of the Weddin Mountains) of those everlasting pests the bushrangers. For my own part, I think it a cause of deep regret that this suggestion had not been made public prior to the overthrow of the Cowper Administration, who would doubtless have given the matter very mature consideration, more particularly after the failure of their chief pet police system. Whether the new Premier will give this suggestion a passing thought, or consign the originator to his kennel, I cannot surmise; but should he adopt the latter course, I myself will be only too happy to bring my humble ability to the rescue, and suggest some idea if it is none other than after the old nursery maids' style of teaching the juveniles how to catch sparrows, viz., *put a little salt on their tails.*

Apologising for this intrusion on your valuable columns,

I am, Sir,
BUSHMAN.

Sydney, 27th October.

THE TAEPINGS.

THE following remarkable letter is from an officer holding military command in the Taeping troops in garrison at Soochow, and is addressed to the editor of the *China Herald*:—

"It is long, now, since I have had an opportunity of writing to you. I held high command among the besiegers of Chiangzu, and was too busy to be able to spare any time for writing letters, but now that I am once more quietly within the walls of Soochow I will tell you what we have been doing of late. You know, of course, how we retired from Fooshan, and left the traitors of Chiangzu to emerge once more from their walls without the fear of immediate death. It is not much use to explain, now, that the retreat had been accomplished, but I cannot help saying it ought never to have taken place. We had 40,000 men there, and if my counsel had prevailed that we should all attack the Imps at once, the victory of Foochan would have been to the credit of the Tien-wang instead of the Tartar. But our people are too much afraid of the big guns of the foreigners; they will not be induced to make a rush, knowing that a thirty-two pound shot will hurry dozens into eternity before they can come to close quarters with their adversaries. They will not think how absurd it is for 40,000 men to retreat before the face of 2000. But this is the will of Heaven, and cannot be helped. We lost our two thirty-two pounders also before Chiangzu, whitner we had taken them in deference to the wish of Tien-fu, which I mentioned in a previous letter. He told us that out of their own mouths we should convince the Imps of their impotency; but the mouths would not speak; and in the efforts of the body to emit the convincing message, it burst, and prevented itself from speaking for evermore. It is almost too late to speak to you of Shao-shing, but it would not now have been in the possession of the Imps if the convoy of powder from Hong-chow had reached its defenders. Without powder, how could they oppose the onslaught of the Imps? Knowing that they could not, they left, to save the valuable lives of the Tien-wang's children; but the Imps did not gain possession of the city without loss. Several small mines were constructed with the little powder left, and many were the Imps whom these blew to destruction. We laid powder under some of our clothes, too, on the floors of the rooms with matches, which should burn slowly till the Imps came in. In their hurry for loot they dragged the clothes towards them, and the match into the powder, and the powder exploded and they got terribly burned. One of the mandarins of Captain Dow's ship was burned in this way so badly that they say his face will always show marks of the occurrence. It is but just that your mandarins should be hurt when they come out to fight against us. What cause of complaint have they against us? We send you down merchandise, and we treat well your countrymen who come among us. Why then, should you fight against us? But I have asked you the same question before, and you can give no other answer, save that your Government will it, so it is useless repeating it. But why does not your Government see the folly of continuing this policy—a policy which it costs your honourable nation almost as much to pursue as you gain, year by year, by protecting the revenues of Shanghai? You at present secure a revenue of £10,000,000 a year to the Tartar Government; and at the same time secure payment to yourself of the money which that Government promised to pay you for the expense of your war with it. But you have to keep a large force at Shanghai, at a great cost, to prevent us from taking it, and must set this against the amount of payments you receive. Truly, though the wisdom of the nations of the West is in some things great, in some they are exceedingly foolish. If we were in your place, we should make the Tartar Government pay the expenses of keeping troops at shanghai out of the revenue you secure them by so doing, and of which without you they would not receive one cash. But if you would only let it come to Shanghai and the other treaty ports, you would be saved the expense and trouble of keeping any troops at all, besides which we would gladly accept the responsibility of paying you the remainder of the indemnity money which the Tartar Government owes. We like foreigners, and wish to be friendly with all, but especially with your honourable nation. During the time we occupied Ningpo, for example, we kept on good terms with all foreigners, interfering with no one; but at last, when we wished to check the numbers who daily came into the city, we gave passes to Englishmen, although they were very generally refused to the French and other desiring visitors. Could we give a stronger proof of our friendship to your honourable nation? Again, we came down to the neighbourhood of Shanghai, how did we behave to the few foreigners who went out to see us or our mandarins? Did we not receive them with every courtesy, and ensure them that, if we were allowed to enter the city, not a cash of their property should be touched? One gentleman read your paper to the interpreter of Kanwang. Had you then allowed us to enter Shanghai, how much misery and death would have been saved. The hundreds who fell at Tsing-poo and Kading, Na-jao and Worg-ka-dza, at Quan-fing and Kiss-cha, and later still at Pao-kiong and Tai-tsan would all have been saved. Instead of remaining for nearly two years a barren plain, cultivation would have flourished around Shanghai as was its wont. Deprived of a basis from whence to send out their troops, and a source from whence to pay them, the Tartar Imps would have been unable to molest us in any part of the province of Keang-su, which would all have settled down quietly under our rule. Instead of being disturbed by the presence of hostile troops, trade would have flown on its wonted channel, the stream augmented by removal, which we would have accomplished, of the many obstacles placed in its way by the slaves of the Tartar, who, while professing to be friendly, do all in their power to oppose you. Even now, after all the injury you have inflicted on us, we would extend to you the right hand of fellowship, and accord you every privilege you could desire, if you would withdraw your opposition to our taking possession of the city of Shanghai, and leave us to fight our own battle with the Imperialists."

PEEL RIVER.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

BOWLING ALLEY POINT, 26TH OCTOBER.—The last two days warn us of the near approach of summer; they have been the hottest we have had this spring. On the whole this has been a cold, wet, backward season; but within the last fortnight vegetation has taken a great start ahead; in fact, all sorts of field and garden produce are now quite rank. So far the farmers may congratulate themselves on their good luck, that is, if their wheat escapes the rust, which I think it will, unless in very low wet ground. Now is the time to see the "bright side of nature" in Australia. The green meadow-like hill sides are dotted and speckled with flowers of every shade and hue. The sweet-scented wattle flowers are most refreshing after a shower. They are the only sweet-scented wild blossoms we have here. The modest daisy so much beloved in childhood grows here in as great profusion as it does in the old country, and our hear s still warm to this simple remembrance of our childhood. But sentiment aside, the country is really beautiful, and quite invigorating to every lover of the face of nature; and, who is not?

We have not had a whole week without some rain for some months past. Those possessed of water ditches have been very much annoyed during the spring and winter; no sooner do they get them cleared after one flood, than down comes another, and leaves them as bad as ever; but now they will enjoy the satisfaction of having a good supply of water for the summer. A few parties among them are doing very well, shares in one race having changed hands lately at £95 per share. The Union Quartz Company have at length succeeded in getting their steam engine in the ground, and are now actively employed getting it put up.

The European population is getting very scarce here now. A good many have gone to the shearing, which promises to pay well this season. I believe the price given at Goonoo Goonoo is 3s. 4d. per score. The Chinamen have been pretty well weeded out during the winter, but as the summer advances and water gets scarce on Bingara, they will soon come back again. There is one class of them on this river who never leave, and I am sure it is a puzzles to me how they get a living. Some of them I have watched for three or four years, and during that time I have never known them to sink a shaft or strip ground in any shape or form. Their utmost exertion is to go from place to place, with a tin dish under their arm, trying a dishful of earth here and a dishful there; and some of them, as a matter of course, doing a little night work on other people's tail races.

Yesterday week an accident occurred to a little boy, by which the poor little fellow had his thigh broken. His father, who is a butcher, was in the habit of sending the lad out with beef on horseback; the horse threw him, inflicting the above injury. It is shameful to send mere children out on horseback, he being only about seven years old.

What becomes of all the English newspapers that are sent out to Australia, is a question asked by many; but it is a question which few can answer—everyone is crying out against it. By rare good luck a party may chance to receive one out of twenty sent. I, as well as others, have been a victim to this negligence, or roguery, I know not which to call it. I think I had the good luck to receive three papers during the last six months, although there have been posted to me from one up to four copies monthly; and this is only a specimen of what many others are suffering.

We are at present free from bushrangers, but it will not be for long if they are allowed to commit depredations with such impunity as they have been latterly. I think you may expect them in Sydney some fine morning, beating up for recruits.

There is great need for a bridge over the Peel at Nundle, more so than before, as the heavy floods have shifted the bed of the river very much this winter, deepening the fords, and consequently leaving steep banks on either side, which makes it very bad for drays to cross.

On the Hanging Rock things are very dull, but Foley's Tally is still going steadily ahead. No great hauls are, however, being made, but steady, good earnings.

THE LATE CONFEDERATE MISSION TO WASHINGTON.

THE *New York Tribune* publishes a letter which purports to be written at Richmond, and the object of which is to explain away the various guesses made by the Northern press as to the mission of Mr. Stephens, the Vice-President of the Confederacy, by stating what was its real nature. The writer does so as follows:—

"The Vice-President of the Confederate States was sent to ask the President of the United States to cooperate with the former Government in measures conducive to the cause of humanity, to the cultivation of the most Christian shapes of warfare, such measures, in the first place, as might be agreed upon between them to lighten the troubles of prisoners and alleviate the pains of the wounded. And had Mr. Stephens been so fortunate as to procure the audience he so frankly and simply sought, I, for one, believe that the mercy of his errand would have met with proper recognition. This, however, secondarily. The primary object of the Vice-President's mission was to protest, in the name of his Government and people, against the mustering and arming of the blacks, which now constitutes almost the only clear feature of your policy. He came to implore you, in the name of a people whose ability you have frankly acknowledged, of soldiers whose resources must have surprised you, of a Government whose courage and devotion and endurance you have felt, to this consummation not to come at last. He came to assure you on the good faith of his Government, on the simple truth of his fellow countrymen, that not one single regiment or corps of negroes has ever been brought into the Confederate service, to be turned armed against you. He came to remind you that such negroes as have from time to time been found on breastworks and in trenches have been caught with spades only or picks in their hands; that such as have been found in regiments—an insignificant number—have been in all cases body servants, sometimes of officers, sometimes of privates, who of their own will, out of the love which you know they bear us, have chosen to follow their masters to the death. And these you have found among your prisoners. He could have told you, if diplomacy permitted sentiment (God save the mark!) of many such 'chattels,' some of them white haired, begging, stealing, fighting their way home again to the "ole missus," and the old place, with all that was left of the "young massa"—a lock of hair, or a trinket. But no matter for that. He came to talk to you of self-preservation, of retaliation, and all that is shocking in the meaning of that word. He came to tell you of the native devil that has slept so long, to be awoke, at last, in the bosoms of a simple, dependent, affectionate race. He came to implore you in the name of God not to do this abominable thing. Else he would have to fall back upon statistics and the grim phraseologies of war, and remind you that the 4,000,000 negroes that appear in the tablets of your census for 1860 are the working hands of both sexes only. That number does not include the superannuated or the infants. Out of these 4,000,000, at least 750,000 able-bodied fellows, loving and trusting their masters, and ready to follow them to the mouths of your cannon (ah! do not continue to befool yourself on that question of ties), can be enrolled, armed, drilled, in three months. They can be officered in every grade by their own masters—those who have seen most service and won most honour. They can be segregated, regiment by regiment, with the white troops. In all the departments the quartermasters, the commissariat, and the medical white officers can administer for them. Superior commands in the black regiments can be made the meed of gallant service in the white. In fine, the entire system as it operates in the Sepoy service in India, and as it has been modified by distinguished British officers at the request of our Government to meet the peculiarities of our people—peculiarities which constitute incalculable advantages, presenting as they do love and confidence, in place of hate and jealousy and suspicion—can be put in working order at once. This is what I tell you can be done. This is what the Vice-President of the Confederate States came to tell you will certainly be done forthwith. Will you tell your people this? It is not for me to speculate upon the consequences of these new and dreadful elements, whirled into new forms of conflict and complication to prolong and intensify the war. My mind, in striving to grasp the subject, lets go its hold, and shrinks as from something at once terrible and loathsome. I cannot speak of things which seem to cry aloud out of the future with the tongues of women and of babes, with the contention of angels and of fiends, mixed of pity and fury. But I do see in all this a hidden mine of power in the South which your policy may in one fatal moment spring upon the country, to bury all we once loved and were proud of in an undistinguishable monstrosity of disgust and death."

GREAT SOUTHERN AND WESTERN RAILWAYS.

TIME TABLE FOR NOVEMBER, 1863, AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

DOWN TRAINS.

Stations.	Sunday Trains 1.	Sat. Trains (additional)	Sunday Trains 2.
	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Great Southern Line.			
Sydney	9 0	1 30	5 0
Newtown	9 7	1 46	5 7
Petersham	9 12	1 56	5 12
Ashfield	9 16	2 2	5 16
Burwood	9 22	2 8	5 22
Homebush	9 26	2 14	5 26
Parramatta (Junction) Arr.	9 37	2 26	5 37
Parramatta (Junction) Dep.	9 52	2 31	5 38
Parramatta (Junction) Arr.	9 57	2 36	5 43
Parramatta (Junction) Dep.	10 0	2 43	5 53
Western Line.			
Parramatta	10 10	2 53	6 3
Blacktown	10 20	3 3	6 13
South Creek	10 26	3 10	6 19
Penrith	10 33	3 17	6 26
Emu Plains	10 40	3 24	6 33
Emu Plains	10 45	3 30	6 38
Emu Plains	10 50	3 35	6 43
Emu Plains	10 55	3 40	6 48
Emu Plains	11 0	3 45	6 53
Emu Plains	11 5	3 50	6 58
Emu Plains	11 10	3 55	7 3
Emu Plains	11 15	4 0	7 8
Emu Plains	11 20	4 5	7 13
Emu Plains	11 25	4 10	7 18
Emu Plains	11 30	4 15	7 23
Emu Plains	11 35	4 20	7 28
Emu Plains	11 40	4 25	7 33
Emu Plains	11 45	4 30	7 38
Emu Plains	11 50	4 35	7 43
Emu Plains	11 55	4 40	7 48
Emu Plains	12 0	4 45	7 53
Emu Plains	12 5	4 50	7 58
Emu Plains	12 10	4 55	8 3
Emu Plains	12 15	5 0	8 8
Emu Plains	12 20	5 5	8 13
Emu Plains	12 25	5 10	8 18
Emu Plains	12 30	5 15	8 23
Emu Plains	12 35	5 20	8 28
Emu Plains	12 40	5 25	8 33
Emu Plains	12 45	5 30	8 38
Emu Plains	12 50	5 35	8 43
Emu Plains	12 55	5 40	8 48
Emu Plains	1 0	5 45	8 53
Emu Plains	1 5	5 50	8 58
Emu Plains	1 10	5 55	9 3
Emu Plains	1 15	6 0	9 8
Emu Plains	1 20	6 5	9 13
Emu Plains	1 25	6 10	9 18
Emu Plains	1 30	6 15	9 23
Emu Plains	1 35	6 20	9 28
Emu Plains	1 40	6 25	9 33
Emu Plains	1 45	6 30	9 38
Emu Plains	1 50	6 35	9 43
Emu Plains	1 55	6 40	9 48
Emu Plains	2 0	6 45	9 53
Emu Plains	2 5	6 50	9 58
Emu Plains	2 10	6 55	10 3
Emu Plains	2 15	7 0	10 8
Emu Plains	2 20	7 5	10 13
Emu Plains	2 25	7 10	10 18
Emu Plains	2 30	7 15	10 23
Emu Plains	2 35	7 20	10 28
Emu Plains	2 40	7 25	10 33